

by go 150

Kremlin announces its choice

## Gorbachov opts for the free market

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

A STOCK exchange and commercial banks, the privatization of state monopolies, and a revamped tax system have been agreed by President Gorbachov in a decisive move towards free-market capitalism, it was announced yesterday.

Mr Gorbachov's radical economic strategy, to be put to the Soviet government and Parliament, will also free all trade and commerce from government control, reform pricing policy and introduce a new social security system.

Announcing the broad outline of the package yesterday, the President's top economic adviser said that unless the country moved immediately to a free-market system, it would no longer continue as a great power where its citizens would want to live.

Mr Leonid Abalkin, a Deputy Prime Minister, said the crisis was worsening rapidly, and the country could no longer afford the more gradual timetable proposed last autumn. The President had therefore agreed to a radical acceleration of economic restructuring.

"The choice has already been made," Mr Abalkin said. "We can no longer continue balancing between two stools." It was no use redistributing wealth, the important thing was to create more.

He predicted that the economic revolution would be extremely difficult and painful.

### Tests dropped for 7-year-olds

The Government, announcing a major shift in its education reforms, said compulsory testing will not be required for seven-year-olds in technology, history and geography.

It had always been understood that testing would be compulsory at seven, 11 and 14, in all ten National Curriculum subjects, but Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that he was planning to insist on compulsory testing only in maths, science and English for seven-year-olds and was considering similar changes for 11-year-olds to reduce the burden on teachers.

Page 5

### Arms confusion

Withdrawal of Soviet arms control concessions by Mr Edward Shevardnadze in last week's Washington visit has sent US negotiators back to the drawing boards. Page 7

### Joy in Nepal

Thousands of Nepalese took to the streets to celebrate the ending of a 30-year ban on political parties, as King Birendra faces the biggest threat to his rule. Page 11

### UK arts gap

Germany, France, The Netherlands, Sweden and Canada all spend more funds on the arts per head of population than Britain. Page 16

### Inflation fear

Factory gate prices rose by 5.6 per cent in the year to March, giving the Government an unwelcome start to a week likely to see an acceleration in retail price inflation. Page 21

### Blake first

Peter Blake, on Steinlager 2, the New Zealand yacht, won his fifth stage of the Whitbread Round the World Race. Fisher & Paykel and British entrant Rothmans were second and third. Page 40

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Moslems praying outside the High Court, London, yesterday after their plea to have the *Satanic Verses* ruling overturned had failed. Report, page 5

## Britain gives aid in war on drugs

By Quentin Cowdry and Stewart Tendler

BRITAIN has set up a task force of experts to advise other countries on how to reduce demand for narcotics and is to provide Colombia with more aid worth £4.5 million to help it fight drug dealers.

The reforms would have overseas implications. In future, individual firms would sign export contracts. Comex, the Soviet trading bloc, would conduct future dealing in convertible currency.

Soviet aid to Third World countries was also likely to be cut, especially if it was given purely for ideological motives. All economic relations should be based solely on mutual interest, and not on political considerations.

He said the biggest threat to the reform package came from individual Soviet republics. Some were trying to limit existing reforms, such as the freedom of factories to sell what they liked. Republican governments were insisting on keeping the produce for themselves. "This is a step backwards. It will lead to the splitting up of the country into individual kingdoms," Mr Abalkin said.

He gave no details of the timing or small print of the reform package. He also feared that the Supreme Soviet would not pass some of the more controversial measures, but he said further delay would be disastrous.

Arms U-turn, page 7  
Pepsico deal, page 20

## Police suspect arson in Irish Sea ferry fire

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

POLICE in Wales yesterday launched a criminal inquiry into the fire on board the Irish Sea ferry Normona, in which one man died, after detectives said it could have been the work of a "coupot" arsonist.

The incident occurred at midnight on Sunday, 24 hours after a fire broke out on board the Norwegian-owned ferry, the Scandinavian Star, in which up to 170 are now feared dead. Swedish police believe that may also have been started deliberately.

A Normona crewman reported smoke emerging from a block of unoccupied cabins.

Safety call, page 4

## Strikes blamed as Ford kills £225m project

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

FORD yesterday cancelled a £225 million investment in South Wales that would have made Britain its key European engine production centre.

The move was seen as a reprisal for disputes which cost the car company more than £200 million in lost production earlier this year.

Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, opening the World Ministerial Drugs Summit in London, told delegates from 112 countries that the international community's attempts to curb narcotics misuse through enforcement could never succeed while there was still a market for drugs.

More than 500 delegates are attending the three-day conference which is exploring the issue of reducing demand for drugs and the threat posed by cocaine, the most widely misused drug in many countries.

Among those present are Senator Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, and President Barco of Colombia.

Mrs Thatcher said she believed better health education aimed at the young, more vigorous anti-drugs advertising, earlier identification of drug misusers and measures to "strengthen the importance of the family", could reduce the market for drugs.

With support for the legalisation case increasing in some industrialised countries, notably America, Mrs Thatcher emphasized the strength of the British Government's opposition to the argument.

She said: "Our task is to protect young people, not deliberately expose them to danger. I can assure you that our Government will never legalise illicit drugs."

She was unable to announce any dramatic new British initiative. However, she said that a team of British experts would be available to offer advice to other nations, particularly developing ones, on educational projects and other demand reduction matters.

The idea was abandoned on the grounds that the volatility of the remaining hardcore of protesters and the wrecked state of the prison militated against the SAS carrying out a clinical, bloodless operation.

The decision not to use force at Strangeways, however, did not prevent the

Cocaine path, page 3  
Conference sketch, page 3  
Leading article, page 13  
Public school tests, page 20

## Four UDR men killed by IRA land-mine

By Edward Gorman, Philip Webster and Peter Gifford

The Army suffered its worst loss of life in a single day in Northern Ireland for almost two years yesterday when four soldiers were killed in an IRA land-mine.

For the Ulster Defence Regiment, of which all four victims were members, it was one of the biggest reverses in its 20-year history, rivalled only by the loss of four men in a similar attack near Omagh in Co Tyrone in July 1983.

The Prime Minister last night expressed revulsion at the killing and asked the Irish Republic to support an all-out effort to defeat terrorism.

The bombing happened shortly before 8am as a two-vehicle UDR patrol moved along the Ballyduigan road, about two miles outside Downpatrick through the rolling hills of South Down.

Members of the IRA's South Down brigade, who

Continued on page 20, col 4

## SAS option to end jail riot dismissed

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

MINISTERS had considered sending in the SAS to end the eight-day-old riot at Manchester's Strangeways prison but dismissed it on the grounds that it could lead to more casualties, it was disclosed yesterday.

It is understood the option was considered at a high-level meeting last Thursday in the Home Office after a sex offender, allegedly beaten during the rioting by other prisoners, died of his injuries.

The idea was abandoned on the grounds that the volatility of the remaining hardcore of protesters and the wrecked state of the prison militated against the SAS carrying out a clinical, bloodless operation.

The decision not to use force at Strangeways, however, did not prevent the

Prison department authorising such action to end the riot at Bristol jail. At dawn yesterday 200 riot-trained prison officers regained control 12 hours after prisoners took over three wings.

The Home Office emphasized yesterday that the tactics employed in dealing with jail riots could only be decided on a case-by-case basis.

The disclosure that the Home Office had briefly considered calling in the SAS came as Strangeways' governor accepted that the public was becoming increasingly impatient about the authorities' failure to end the disturbance, the worst prison has suffered this century.

Dawn raid, page 4  
Photograph, page 4

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## New York critics lose little love on 'Aspects'

From Charles Brearner  
New York

ALL but one of New York's theatre critics wielded their axes on *Aspects of Love* after its Broadway opening yesterday, lacerating Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical with a glee that, to some in the composer's camp, smacked of British prejudice.

"It generates about as much heated passion as a visit to the bank," wrote Frank Rich, the all-powerful reviewer of *The New York Times*, whose invective has earned him the nickname the "Butcher of Broadway".

"This time the composer's usual Puccini-isms have been supplanted by a naked (Stephen) Sondheim envy," Rich said amid a rush of ridicule that compared the show to "Caveauca-rama", held it to be "stranded in musical foreplay", and as erotic as the

"austerity of Margaret Thatcher's Britain". *Aspects* was "in most desperate need of roller skates", he concluded.

Comment from the *Daily News*, *Newsday* and *The Washington Post* was a little less devastating. *Aspects*, which is directed by Mr Trevor Nunn, "is a relentless, heartless attempt to create another hit", sniffed Howard Kissel in the *News*. "Lloyd Webber's biggest miscalculation," said *Newsday*.

That view, however, contrasted with a glowing report by the British-born Clive Barnes in the *New York Post*, who called it a lovely musical that was "easily the best currently on Broadway". Critics from *Time*, *Newsweek* and other national publications also liked it.

*Time*, for example, called the show haunting and praised the "cunning naivete" of the score — a far cry from the *New York* newspaper critics' view that it was trite and plagiarized. The musical

# Unofficial strikes and supply fears drive cash away

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

MONTHS of warnings came suddenly true for union leaders yesterday when Ford cut off investment to its engine plant at Bridgend.

Mr John Hougham, Ford's director of personnel, had said in February that wildcat strikes costing £10 million a day would "affect the attitudes of the people who make decisions" on investment.

Some of those key decision makers were in the huge Ford of Europe conglomerate in West Germany, Spain and Belgium who would be relying on Britain as an essential supplier of engines and other components.

When the consequences of the unofficial action at Halewood affected production in Genk, Belgium, Britain could not be allowed to be the key centre for 70 per cent of the group's engine production.

More than that, the decision to take £225 million worth of investment to West Germany, plus

investing about £2.2 billion in its British facilities over the next five years but poor efficiency at its main site at Dagenham, which makes Sierras and Fiestas, plus uneven quality performance has offset the benefits of investing in a low-wage business which is beset by industrial relations problems.

The Sierra will be transferred to Belgium this summer - and now Bridgend's role will be curtailed.

Unions say Bridgend, not regarded as a traditional hotbed of industrial unrest, was an easy target because clichés for the second phase of investment were still to be cashed.

Mr Jimmy Airlie, secretary of the Ford joint negotiating committee, said: "This is a clear signal that Ford regards itself as above national considerations and as a multinational can move investment to where it likes throughout the European Community."

"We accept it is a rap on the knuckles, but it is a decision which fails to address the problems that Britain faces and the huge leaps in productivity which have been made here."

However the company still has to tackle industrial relations problems which stem from the fact that its 32,000 manual workers in Britain are becoming increasingly jealous of their counterparts in West Germany, where Cologne will win the second phase of the Zeta engine project. Union figures show West German assembly line staff work on average 38 days a year less than those in Britain while earning £160 a week more.

Yet Ford profits in Britain are expected to have topped more than £700 million last year and unions say this country is the most profitable.

Ford emphasized last night that it had to secure supplies from not only industrial disputes within its own organization but also among seamens running ferries and even from the weather.

"Our revised powertrain requirements would have resulted in too great a percentage of engines being sourced from Britain, particularly in the light of the unreliability of supply we have experienced in our British plants in recent years," the company said.

# Child's view of mysteries of Passover



Rabbi Rachamin Goodman teaching young Birmingham children how to make matza bread, essential for the annual Passover celebrations

## Unions demand rises up to 18%

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

THE Government faces further wage-led inflation pressure this week when union leaders representing 600,000 workers demand pay increases of up to 18 per cent.

Warnings by Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, that high wage claims could result in job losses are being ignored by unions which blame Government policies for rising costs.

Today, leaders of more than 100,000 British Rail staff will tell management they expect far more than the 8 per cent which has been offered.

Tomorrow, leaders of more than 500,000 town hall staff will demand flat rate increases of £1,500, representing rises up to 18 per cent.

Union negotiators are making it clear that the 10.2 per cent pay settlement achieved by Ford car workers is the "going rate". They are also increasingly citing the poll tax as an additional inflationary factor in pay claims. Last

## Many ages of fantasy from cyclops to the hobbit

By Philip Howard

FROM airy-footed hobbits to humourless talking rabbits, we think of fantasy as a decadent modern craze. But, like most of our modern culture, its roots run deep.

At the annual general meeting of the Classical Association, which opened at the University of Kent at Canterbury yesterday, Dr Graham Anderson of Kent University entertainingly examined the birth of fantasy as a genre of Greek and Latin literature.

In many ways it was more sophisticated and imaginative than our modern ETs and little green

men with wickerwork heads. For instance, what strip cartoon today would dare to invent a one-man combination of Common Market, Glasnost and Perestroika popping up in the middle of a real war, or fantastic cities with absurd constitutions, peopled by birds who are able to drive away poll tax administrators, and negotiate with Mrs Thatcher, complete with parrot?

As with most genres of western literature, it all started with Homer. Ancient academic critics complained. Longinus said that with the cyclops and other fantasies of the *Odyssey*, "we see the ebbing of Homer's greatness as he wanders in

the realms of the fabulous and the incredible". But there is fantasy also in the day to day din of battle of the *Iliad*, when Achilles sights the River Scamander, or with the description of the Chimaera in the *Bellerophon* story.

Dr Anderson suggested that ancient literary editors disapproved of fantasy not because of their passion for realism, but because of a regard for the sense of propriety that so deeply imbues the Hellenistic and subsequent ages.

Athenian Old Comedy with Aristophanes and others of the lost likely lads was the real nursery of our fantasy. But you do not have to

look far to find fantasy everywhere in ancient literature, even in improbable places. For example, in Roman elegy, which we think of as the first vehicle in our literature for the private feelings of lovers, we suddenly run into doors that talk, and a force of Cupid police who direct a wandering lover back to his mistress's house.

In *Ars Poetica*, his odd guide to scribblers, Horace says of fantasy "I don't believe it, and I don't like it." But in his Odes, Horace himself, the plump and bald little club man, fantasizes improbably that he is turning into a swan, with feathers sprouting in all sorts of uncomfortable

places. In satire, we may think the poet is castigating the follies and wickedness of the way his contemporaries lived them in every day Rome. But then, suddenly we encounter a statue of Priapus that breaks wind in the night, to frighten two witches gathering accessories for the ghoulish experiments.

Dr Anderson found fantasy present in the most unlikely places, from the ancient political satirists to pedagogic school exercises in rhetoric. In spite of the disapproval of dour academics down the ages, fantasy turns out to be a very old and very pervasive ingredient of western literature.

## Home-sale costs have risen

The cost of selling a home has gone up in the last year, largely because of increased fees by estate agents, while the cost of buying is slightly lower, the Woolwich Building Society says in its annual cost of moving survey published today (Christopher Warman writes).

In England and Wales the average estate agent's fee has risen to nearly 2.5 per cent of the selling price, compared with last year's figure of 1.9 per cent.

For a £100,000 property the average cost of selling is now £2,871, £378 more than in 1989.

The cost of buying a £100,000 home is £40 less, at £1,855, compared with last year, reflecting increased competition for conveyancing and furniture removal.

### Beetle threat

Colorado beetles, which can devastate potato crops, have made their first appearance of the year in England and Wales on vegetables imported from the Continent. Officials are confident however that the threat from the beetle is under control. No breeding colonies have been found in Britain since 1977.

### Girl sues father

Danielle Hayden, aged 11, yesterday sued her father Terry in the High Court over the death of her mother Lynda in a road crash in 1983. The girl, who lives with her father, is unaware of the case brought on her behalf by Mrs Ruby Ford, her maternal grandmother and her legal representative. The case continues.

### Couple missing

Concern was growing last night for Mr Michael Cole and his wife Catherine, in their mid-50s, who set out for a walk from the Poppit Sands youth hostel in Pembrokeshire on Saturday morning and have not been heard from since.

### Sky in schools

Television should be available to half a million school pupils by the autumn. The satellite education project, specifically designed to support the National Curriculum, will begin with a pilot scheme involving 70 schools.

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Mr Tebbit: Out to help win local council votes

LONDON DRUGS CONFERENCE

# Plea for united front to stem cocaine imports

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Correspondent

EUROPEAN seizures of cocaine have reached 4,000 kilos in the first quarter of 1990 compared with a record 6,300 kilos for the whole of last year. The World Drugs Summit in London was told yesterday.

Opening the debate on the threat from cocaine, one of the two main themes of the summit, Signor Antonio Gava, the Italian Minister of the Interior, said the rate of growth in the cocaine boom had no equal among any criminal or social phenomena.

One solution, he suggested, lay in greater control of the chemicals which have to be imported by South American laboratories refining the coca leaves. A group of EC experts was drawing up proposals for controls to be disclosed next month.

The community is also preparing guidance for member states on controlling money-laundering and tap-

ping the wealth that goes back to the traffickers.

Signor Gava said the latest

Interpol figures demonstrate

the speed with which cocaine

has taken hold since 1986,

when the total seizure was

1,500 kilos. The cartels, he

said, were moving into

Europe and processing plants

had been found in Spain, West

Germany, France and Italy.

They were also attempting to build up links with organized crime in Europe and exploit large communities of South Americans who may be potential traffickers and couriers.

Signor Gava spoke of the "frightening" amount of cocaine being produced each year, estimated at 700 to 800 tons. That figure was probably an underestimate since no one knew the production volume of the hidden plantations among the Amazonian rainforests along the Colom-

bian border. The cartels were not only organizing ever-greater crops of cocaine, but also destroying the forest. Last year 20,000 hectares of trees were felled.

Part of the impetus for the assault on Europe lay in the saturation of the American market. In 1988, the Iberian peninsula accounted for half of all cocaine found coming into Europe, but that dropped to 30 per cent last year after a Spanish crackdown. Traffickers then made greater use of West Germany, France, The Netherlands and the UK.

It was high time the effort put into fighting drugs was proportionate to the gravity of the situation. "If we regard the drug problem as the greatest calamity of our age and as one of the most serious threats — if not the most serious — the resources and tools we use should reflect this."

He praised Mrs Margaret Thatcher's initiative in setting up the summit and the blend of policies she advocated, including both reducing the demand for drugs and also combatting the traffickers.

Signor Barco said the war against drugs had only just started. The fight which Colombia had begun showed the drug barons were not invincible. "The drug barons are neither supported nor admired by the people and there is no desire for complacency about their vile activity. The myth that the drug barons are stronger than the state or society is only another legend."

Signor Barco continued: "The desire felt by those who think that we are engaged in an unwinnable or impossible battle is only the consequences of scepticism arising from the false assumption that for years we have been availing ourselves of all possible resources on this fight and the framework of an appropriate strategy."

It is a fact, he said, that drugs marred people's lives, corroded values, degraded human beings, corrupted society, bred violence, destroyed the spirit of the nation. "Drugs betray our civilization."

• Three East European countries are to join a West European drugs initiative, it was announced at the summit.

Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia are to join the Pompidou group, which includes 20 West European countries.

Leading article, page 13

may make Britons particularly vulnerable to the spread of "ice", the latest and most deadly illicit drug to appear in the US.

A methamphetamine, it can cause irreparable physical damage to users in days.

Radical new government responses are unlikely. Mr Waddington believes Britain's well-established anti-drugs strategy, which combines rigorous law enforcement, health education and foreign aid designed to help producer countries grow alternative crops, reflects the basic complexity of the problem.

Preventive activity could be stepped up in schools. Most education authorities already provide some warnings about drug misuse but the campaigns are far smaller than in the US, where tens of thousands of children begin the school day by chanting anti-drugs slogans.

Mr Waddington would like to see uniformed policemen play — as they do in the US — a direct role in spreading the gospel by giving talks in schools and advising pupils on how to say "no" in practical situations.

Leading article, page 13

## Conference sketch

### High on a pedestal of hot air and hype

THE first law of political pantomime is that every fatuous "initiative" should spawn at least two more, of equal futility. The Prime Minister's speech to her UN drugs conference yesterday spawned nine, each more specious than the last. It was a deserved success.

From the outset, the auspices were good. Your correspondent knows two unerring signs that an occasion will lack substance. One is the appearance of women in hats. The other is the appearance of common nouns in capital letters. At "The World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat", hats would have been superfluous.

At Westminster, the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre rose, sun-kissed and magnificent, from a dark sea of purring black Mercedes cars. On their bonnets tiny flags fluttered, while number plates like VEN 1 proclaimed their authority.

This was the class the little people in Africa call the *wabenz* — the Mercedes Benz people: the people of which any good Third World jamboree constitutes, the rich from poor nations, come to blame the poor from rich nations.

It would have been helpful if the government had decorated the entrance with drug-addicted English derelicts, but they were not invited.

I entered. Arrangements for

the world's press were sumptuous: banks of electric typewriters, rows of telephone kiosks and advance copies in every language of all speeches; while, upstairs in the "Press Lounge" designer-sofas and tables with pink linen table cloths welcomed us.

I sipped my coffee, surveyed an array of cookies, took 15 and watched fascinated as a milk-dispensing machine over-filled a jug and dispensed milk on to the floor, to the laughter of the staff. How wide would have been the eyes of the hungry coca-growing peasants I know in Bolivia!

A gallery had been arranged so that the media could see and photograph the *wabenz* coming in or, as my handbook said: "Arrive des délégués et des personnes de marque". And of course the personage of the greatest imaginable marque was Mrs Thatcher herself, in shimmering blue and pearls.

"Over here, Mrs Thatcher, look this way!" Snap, flash, click, pop ... "Shake hands again, Prime Minister, for the cameras!" Encircled by corded ropes in mid-foyer (where you might once have placed an extravagant display of flowers) was an island of tripods and cameramen, waving like tropical palms.

Within the hall, a brightly lit podium faced a sea of plump, expectant black, brown and white faces framed

Matthew Parris

With little headphones. Lights dimmed. The AutoCue glasses glowed cool blue in the dark. All at once a taped disco-style fanfare filled the hall. And hidden projectors beamed a picture of the UN flag tangled up with the Union Jack. A ripple of applause signalled the entrance of the Great Ones. The lights came up.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, barked a brief welcome. Recently, his analysis of rioting as due to sheer wickedness has advanced criminological thinking some way; and we had hoped for more.

That came from the Prime Minister, or, rather, her AutoCue machine: a cornucopia of initiatives. There was the "Pompidou Group", "Crimestoppers", "Drug Command" and "Crop Substitution". There was a new charity, "Business Against Drugs" ("BAD") money for Colombia (hal) and a new UK "Taskforce" to advise foreigners how to "reduce demand for drugs" in their own countries (no joke!). There was a protocol with Finland.

Mrs Thatcher once spurned the politician's addiction to hot-air summary. No longer. If "initiatives" do for the PM what a sniff of cocaine does for some of her citizens, then on yesterday's showing, this woman needs help.

There seems to be a fear of

Matthew Parris

Despite the proliferation of credit, debit and store cards, most people still prefer to pay for a majority of consumer goods and services in cash, according to a new survey.

From electricity bills,

community charge and rate

payments to food, drink and

holidays, the survey *Cash in the UK*, by MORI and West-

ern Union Consumer Ser-

vices, reveals that high

interest charges are making

many people distrust credit

and pay in cash. Nearly three

quarters of about 2,000 people

aged over 15 surveyed across

Britain said they used cash to

pay for clothes, petrol and

meals in restaurants.

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The original Ops Room in Duxford in 1940 (below). Mrs Jean Mills, above left, and Mrs Joan Porter returned to their posts to admire the restoration 50 years on

## Wartime battle call relieved

STAFF who manned a Battle of Britain Ops Room met up again with wartime pilots to relive old memories in a reconstruction of their original headquarters yesterday.

The Operations Room was opened at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, Cambridgeshire, once a vital RAF base in the fight for control of the skies.

It has taken the museum more than two years to reconstruct the Ops Room — which directed fighters to the enemy.

Where the museum was not able to trace original equipment, it instead had made exact replicas of telephones, radios, charts, switchboards and headsets.

Women, as young as 18 years old, played the vital role of plotters, tracking movements of enemy and allied fighter planes across the skies.

The reconstruction is to

mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Britain being celebrated this year.

Mr Stephen Woolford, head of education at Duxford, said the museum was



working on a soundtrack to bring the Ops Room "to life".

He said: "We used archive material as well as information from the people who worked here who managed to trace us with them to find out what the room looked like."

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working on a soundtrack to bring the Ops Room "to life".

He said: "We used archive material as well as information from the people who worked here who managed to trace us with them to find out what the room looked like."

It was so exciting for us. Because of the carelessness of us, we couldn't even tell our families what we were working on."

Spitfire pilot Wing Commander Gordon Sinclair, from Salisbury, Wiltshire, said the Battle of Britain would have been lost without the team in the Ops Room.

## Pregnant woman 'hit by priest'

By Tom Giles

A ROMAN Catholic priest attacked a pregnant woman during an anti-abortion demonstration outside a nursing home, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Tracey Allsop said he had recently returned to work as a nursing home manager after a threatened miscarriage when she was thrown to the ground by James Morrow, and by Barry Norman and Tasmin Grech.

Birmingham Crown Court was told the three pushed Mrs Allsop to the ground, even though she said she was pregnant, as she tried to rescue a patient. All three deny assault causing bodily harm.

Mr Timothy Raggart, for the prosecution, said a group of demonstrators had gathered outside the Calthorpe Nursing Home in Birmingham on November 18, 1989.

He said: "They came to Birmingham for a very specific reason.

"There are probably few more emotive subjects than abortion, and people feel very strongly about it. But however strong these feelings, there is no justification for breaking the law." He said the demonstrators tried to prevent patients entering the private nursing home.

He said: "The demonstration was organized by Father Morrow outside the nursing home. The defendants took it upon themselves to enter the property and besiege it."

The trial continues.

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0800 22 2000

## Parish battle over 'wobbly' pulpit remains in balance

By Lin Jenkins

A DISPUTE over the future of a reputedly wobbly 1866 stone pulpit that has split a small South Yorkshire parish remained unresolved after a Consistory Court hearing yesterday.

Parishioners, who see the pulpit as an essential part of All Saints' Church, Barton, near Barnsley, have challenged the decision of the Rev Seymour McCarragher and the parochial church council to remove it.

At a well-attended hearing in the church yesterday, Mr McCarragher said the pulpit was unstable and seldom used. It obscured the altar and brides' mothers had complained that they could not see their daughters during part of the marriage ceremony. He added: "It is not in keeping with the Tudor church."

He said the vicar had been premature in seeking to move the pulpit without knowing exactly what would replace it. Once the cost and design for a sufficiently worthy replacement were known

# Use of baton and shield squad marks a change in tactics

By Ray Clancy

THE decision to use force at Bristol jail to end the siege by prisoners was taken at a high level within the Home Office and marks a dramatic change in tactics.

The prolonged disturbance at Strangeways in Manchester made it clear to officials that the softly, softly approach would not work.

In Bristol specially trained "control and restraint" teams stormed into the jail just 12 hours after the prisoners took over three wings.

The move came at dawn and involved 200 prison officers wearing riot gear. They said most of the prisoners

immediately surrendered and only a few had to be "persuaded" to give themselves up.

The tactics were designed to seize control of the prison as soon as daylight approached and prevent the sort of tragedy that led to the death of a prisoner at Dartmoor prison in Devon.

Mr John May, the governor of Dartmoor, said he wanted negotiations to bring that siege to an end, not force.

At Bristol it was proved beyond doubt that force was the answer to the sporadic disturbances that have erupted in British jails in the past few days. Mr Roy Smith, the governor of Bristol, described

how the operation went. He said the squads moved in at 6am and "between 7am and 8am we regained control".

Mr Smith described the whole episode as extremely frightening and the worst disturbances he had experienced. He praised his officers, the police and emergency services who worked in a supportive role.

The prison officers who took part in regaining control however said the operation had worked against the odds. Members of the Prison Officers' Association said they were ill-equipped for the task.

"There has been a shift in attitude in the last couple of days. Our intelligence is that a

decision has been made in the highest authority that we had to stop pussy-footing about and we had to get in there because prisoners were not going to give it back."

Mr Colin Stiel, a member of the association's executive who was inside Bristol jail when the squad moved in, said:

"When the siege had begun lumps of concrete and tiles were thrown forcefully from the roof at officers who were forced to withdraw and leave the three wings in control of more than 400 prisoners.

In the early evening a

decision was taken to storm the building and contingency plans were worked out. It was decided that the control and

restraint teams, drafted in from the Midlands and the South-east, should wait until dawn to strike.

Wearing helmets and carrying shields and batons they took it in turns to sweep through the building.

"It was a very stressful operation for the officers. We had some people to get out of cells.

There were other prisoners running about, shouting and throwing things," Mr Ron Speakman, a Prison Officers' Association spokesman at Bristol jail, said.

"It is possible, but cannot be ascertained for certain until detailed reports of all the prison riots have been analysed, that the death at Dartmoor could have been avoided if control and restraint teams had been used to

was abysmal. We shall be taking this up with the Home Secretary."

The approach at Dartmoor was different. "We were able to regain control of the prison after inmates systematically gave themselves up," Mr May said.

"Although force was an option that was open to us I preferred to get the trained negotiators in and to persuade prisoners to give up."

It is possible, but cannot be ascertained for certain until detailed reports of all the prison riots have been analysed, that the death at Dartmoor could have been avoided if control and restraint teams had been used to

clear the occupiers within hours of the riot starting.

• BBC and Independent Television News chiefs were urged by Mrs Mary Whitehouse to reduce detailed television news coverage of the prison troubles to prevent more "copycat" riots (Richard Evans writes).

Mrs Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, telephoned both broadcasting organizations to suggest that prison riots should be covered by still pictures and the spoken word of reporters rather than showing film of rooftop protests. She suggested the extensive television coverage of the recent riots had contrib-

uted to their frightening spread.

"Television teaches and the massive and continuous coverage of the techniques of violent insurrection used by rioting prisoners can only encourage copycat atrocities now being seen in other prisons," she said last night.

Mrs Whitehouse recalled how Lord Scarman's inquiry into the Toxteth riots had concluded that television coverage had helped to spread riots. "It seems as though people have forgotten that."

She added: "If the prisoners have grievances they should be heard, but not to the extent that they stimulate copycat behaviour."

## Prison officers' dawn raid ends siege at Bristol

By David Young and Ray Clancy

SPECIAL squads of prison officers surged through Bristol prison at dawn yesterday to end the siege there, while the "softly softly" approach brought Dartmoor prison back under control.

Meanwhile unrest continued at other prisons, disrupting court proceedings.

The strong-arm tactics used at Bristol, the first time force has been used during the series of disturbances in the wake of the Strangeways riot, succeeded 14 hours after the protest began and marked a change in Home Office policy.

Extra staff had been drafted in, in case of trouble over the

weekend, but they had had been acting as normally as possible in the hope of diffusing tension.

"We had tried to carry on. There was a football match as usual, recreation period and normal activities such as table tennis and darts," Mr Roy Smith, the governor, said.

Scuffles broke out at tea time in A wing, however. Lumps of concrete were thrown around and prisoners, armed with iron bars ripped from stairways, moved on to the roof. Up to 400 prisoners occupied three wings of the jail.

Mr Smith described what

followed as "evil", saying it was the most frightening disturbances he had experienced. Several officers were hurt by flying debris. One was hit on the head by a tile and managed to get out of the way before being further injured. Another was hit in the chest, but saved from serious injury by his radio.

Throughout the night plans were made, and at dawn 200 officers – half of them specially trained – swept through the jail and regained control.

"Between 7 and 8 am we were in control and just four prisoners were left on the roof," Mr Smith said.

The governor believed some of the ringleaders could have come from Dartmoor after the disturbance there, and the Prison Officers' Association said the policy of moving prisoners involved in riots to other jails simply moved the trouble around.

The disturbance at Dartmoor – where a man serving a six-year sentence for robbery and wounding died in a fire in his cell – ended comparatively peacefully, although the governor, Mr John May, admitted: "The place looks a frightful mess." He said the use of force would have risked injury to staff or inmates, and added that there would be no change of feeling. He said that 21 inmates had been seen in the jail. Two prisoners were unaccounted for.

The prison authorities have had great difficulty tracking down prisoners transferred to prisons and police stations throughout the country. "They went out at great speed with no documentation," Mr O'Friel said. Some had not given their proper names, others refused to give any name.

Mr O'Friel said that one result of the riot had been that people were now asking fundamental questions about the prison service. He was glad to see such questions being asked and looked to a future with one prisoner in each cell and each cell with proper toilet facilities.

## Blast of opera for rioters

By Ronald Faux

*The Ride of the Valkyrie* amplified at full volume and aimed at rioters occupying Strangeways Prison, Manchester, marked the start of the ninth day of the siege yesterday. An onslaught of Wagner at his most ominous was the latest weapon used by the prison authorities to try to bring the riot to a peaceful end.

Mr Brendan O'Friel, the prison governor, told a press conference that any decision to end the siege by force would have to be made at a high political level. "It is not for me to take. I am responsible for managing the end of this incident as peacefully as it is possible to do so," he said.

It was prison service policy to deal with such incidents by a mixture of negotiation and pressure. "I am determined that we will give negotiations their fullest possible chance but it is very important we get on with the negotiations because it is quite clear to me that impatience is growing in the community," he added.

Mr O'Friel said, however,

that other options were not being ruled out. He refused to comment on whether the SAS had been called in.

Mr O'Friel said he could not discount the possibility that there had been deaths. "But there is a slight shift in my feelings from pessimism to optimism," he said. He would not give the grounds for this change of feeling. He said that 21 inmates had been seen in the jail. Two prisoners were unaccounted for.

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ONE LOOK TELLS YOU IT'S DAKS

London courts were without prisoners yesterday because of the tension in the jails. Officials were told by the authorities at Bristol prison – where most people are held while awaiting trial at the Central Criminal Court – that no prisoners would be delivered to courts because of the "state of unrest". Cases at Knightsbridge, Southwark, Islington and Shoreditch Crown Courts were also delayed.

There were reports of increasing tension at Wormwood Scrubs, where a bag of improvised knives was found in the exercise yard and prisoners were found carrying heavy radio batteries.

Staff were also on alert at Pentonville, where many of the 20 prisoners transferred from Strangeways complained that conditions were worse than those they had left.

At Gartree high security prison in Leicestershire, a man who had staged a lone rooftop protest in support of the Birmingham Six since March 28, gave himself up.

The inquest was adjourned until today.

## Injuries to inmate not explained

A PRISON officer could give no explanation at an inquest yesterday as to how a prisoner sustained severe injuries, including a fracture to the spine.

The officer denied using undue force on German Alexander, aged 58, of Alpha Road, Edmonton, north London, who died in custody on December 6 last year.

Mr Ian Molyneux, a prison officer at Bristol jail, south-west London, since September 1989, told the resumed inquest at Southwark, south London, that he first went to Mr Alexander's cell because of a disturbance. He was later joined by several other officers and the decision was made to move Mr Alexander.

"We got him into a standard wrist lock, one on each side. He wasn't kicking, he was just wriggling," Mr Molyneux said. He denied making abusive remarks at the time.

The prisoner wriggled free of the wrist lock and continued to struggle, so he was handcuffed with his arms behind his back, and walked down the stairs, the inquest was told.

"I first noticed blood when we were trying to handcuff him. I did not notice any vomit," Mr Molyneux said.

The hearing was shown pictures of extensive injuries to Mr Alexander's body, face and mouth, but Mr Molyneux said he could give no explanation as to how they came about.

The inquest was adjourned until today.

## Runcie calls for rethink on jails

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, described prison life yesterday as "repetitive, mind-numbing and as unfulfilling as pedalling a treadmill or picking oakum used to be".

In a pamphlet published by the Prison Reform Trust, Dr Runcie argues that the country would be better served if resources were directed at developing alternatives to prison, such as bail hostels, "rather than exposing so many, especially the young and vulnerable, to the horrors of grisly Risley" or an over-crowded local prison.

The duty of the prison service should be to "give succour, worth and hope to all those in their custody, and to find the well-springs of human and spiritual renewal amid their guilt and pain".

While the response to these problems has been to embark on a big building programme, Dr Runcie said he feared this could halt the trend away from custodial sentencing.

Reform, Renewal and Rehabilitation by Dr Robert Runcie (Prison Reform Trust, 39 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU; £1.95)

Police forensic teams were yesterday working their way yard-by-yard through the ship, recording the position of each body before its removal.

The first 70 victims were found in one area of the main cabin deck towards the stern and their bodies have been returned to Oslo, where the ferry left on its fateful voyage for Denmark on Friday evening.

The job of removing some of the 15 bodies and 100 canisters on board also began yesterday in an effort to correct the ship's starboard list.

The fire was finally put out on Sunday after the ferry had been towed to Lysekil and more than 36 hours after it had broken out in one of the cabin areas.

Police are still investigating claims by Captain Larsen that the tragedy was brought about by an arsonist who had lit another, less serious, fire on a lower deck minutes before the second one started.

Two British children on an Easter holiday trip with their father are among those missing.

Their mother, Mrs Jennifer Duncombe, of Brentwood, Essex, has had no news of Robert, aged 12, or David, aged 11, since learning of the fire on Saturday.

Mrs Duncombe, who has been confined to a wheelchair,

that was applied before the potatoes and corn were planted.

Mrs Maureen Bailey, a Lichfield Conservative councillor, who lives three-quarters of a mile from the Tebbit's farm and complained about the smell, said yesterday: "It is abominable. Every farmer has a responsibility to people who live nearby. Nobody is trying to take their living away, but they must be part of the environment."

She said: "Every manure has a certain amount of odour, you have to expect that, but I suppose we get used to it. It is only at one time of the year."

Mrs Tebbit's son Richard said the food extract was injected into the soil from a trailer. It helped to rot down the straw in the traditional manure

costs, which were estimated to run into four figures.

Afterwards, Mrs Tebbit said she used only a minimum of chemical fertilizers because they could leach through the farm's sandy soil and pollute an underground lake.

She had been using the manure and food extract successfully for 10 years, but had not applied it at the start of this year's growing season because of the impending court case. She would now apply it again.

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# Muslims seek plea to Lords after Rushdie case fails

By Michael Hornell

THE LEGAL campaign by Muslim activists to enforce prosecution under the blasphemy laws of Salman Rushdie and his publishers for his novel, *The Satanic Verses*, failed yesterday when the High Court dismissed their plea.

The court refused to quash a decision of Sir David Hopkin, the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, not to issue summonses against the award-winning writer and Viking Penguin, the book's publisher. Last night, Mr. Rushdie welcomed the court's ruling and called for the "anachronistic" blasphemy law to be abolished. "I regret that our blasphemy law discriminates between religions as well as discriminating against humanists and non-believers," he said in a statement.

In a reserved judgement, Lord Justice Watkins had ruled that the magistrate was correct in holding that the common law of blasphemy only protected Christianity. Police kept a watch on Muslim sympathizers inside the court. There was a demonstration outside, but it passed without incident.

Mr. Mohammad Yusuf Akhtar, a barrister and spokesman for the British Muslim Action Front, said after the hearing: "It is a bad day for the reputation of this country and

the author and Viking Penguin."

Lord Justice Watkins told the court that where the law was clear it was not the proper function of the courts to extend it. The task of Parliament. Even if the courts had such power, widening the law of blasphemy would pose insuperable problems and would be likely to do more harm than good. Mr. Ali

Azhar, said he had profound respect for the court's wisdom, but the judgement would "sadden many millions of hearts in this country".

Mr. Choudhury said he was disappointed by the decision which was "not too bad, but not too good".

Asked where the money was

coming from for a possible appeal, he said "from Allah".

Lord Justice Watkins said it

appeared that the case was the

first in which a "would-be

prosecutor has claimed that

the offence of blasphemy is

applicable to religions other

than Christianity".

The court had been "called

upon to examine that claim in

the setting of a much changed

world and of a society in

which now contains many adherents of religions

other than Christianity".

However, the court was in

no doubt that the law as it now

stood did not extend to re

ligions other than

Christianity.

After the decision, Mr. Saeed Azam, president of Bradford Council for Mosques, issued a warning that violence could again flare on the streets over the Rushdie issue. Last summer, the book was burnt by protesters in Bradford.

Penguin said: "We are naturally relieved by the decision."

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Law Report, page 32

Miss Jean Harrison, bird keeper at the park, with 11-month-old Percy; his youth may explain his survival after the rest of the colony died

By Nicholas Watt

PERCY the penguin has baffled his keepers by becoming the only survivor of an unknown illness that has killed 21 penguins, including his parents, at an Oxfordshire wildlife park.

Penguin said: "We are naturally relieved by the decision."

his youth that probably saved him. He has been kept in isolation away from the penguins' pool because Mr. Colin Fountain, manager of the Cotswold Wildlife Park near Burford, Oxfordshire, said toxins from the pool may have caused the illness.

However he added: "We just don't know where it came from. It doesn't appear to be a virus but the post-mortems showed no obvious cause of

the deaths. We are checking the pool and experts are looking at the toxins." It could be something airborne, in the water, soil or diet, he said.

Percy will be moved to another enclosure in the next few days where he will be on show to the public but Mr. Fountain said it might be another six months before he had any penguins for company.

The first penguins at the park struck

by the illness died last June after becoming lethargic and losing their appetite. In February seven were lost. At the Tropical Bird Gardens in Somerset meanwhile the last of 14 penguins died last week. The symptoms appeared to be similar to those at the Cotswold Park. The parks' vets contacted each other but at present do not think there is a connection.

## Minister eases test burden on primary pupils

By David Tyder, Education Editor

LEGALLY required testing of seven-year-olds in some National Curriculum subjects will be waived because it placed "an undue burden" on primary schools, Mr. John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

Mr. MacGregor said "he would be prepared for teachers to carry out their own tests in technology, history and geography".

He would also consider relaxing tests for 11-year-olds but insisted that it would not lead to a drop in standards. Statutory testing of seven-year-olds in English, mathematics and science will go ahead next year but schools will not be compelled to publish the results.

Parents will be allowed to see the results but schools will only have to publish the results at 11 and 14 from 1992.

## NUT call for black recruits

By David Tyder

MORE black people should be encouraged to teach in schools in England and Wales, the country's largest teachers' union said yesterday.

The National Union of Teachers wants the Government to encourage more black people into the classroom. Its annual conference in Bournemouth next week will also be asked to approve a greater involvement of black people in the union's affairs and the setting up of an advisory body on equal opportunities for the ethnic minorities.

A union committee said there were too few black teachers in schools and many of them were given low status.

It was particularly concerned about control over appointments and promotions by school governing bodies.

The committee said: "The possibility for discrimination will be even greater if local authority guidance on equal opportunities is not needed."

Governors should be made aware they may be financially liable for industrial tribunal cases if they do not take local education authority advice and breach the Race Relations Act. The committee said a survey by the Commission for Racial Equality showed that in eight local authorities with above average ethnic minority populations, less than 2 per cent of the teaching profession were from those minorities.

The survey also said 75 per cent of ethnic minority teachers felt racial discrimination had adversely affected their careers.

Unions were yesterday urged to increase efforts to tackle "widespread" racial discrimination suffered by black people in work.

The call came from the TUC, which has produced two new brochures making it clear that racial problems should be tackled by unions.



Mr. MacGregor: Reforms at reasonable pace

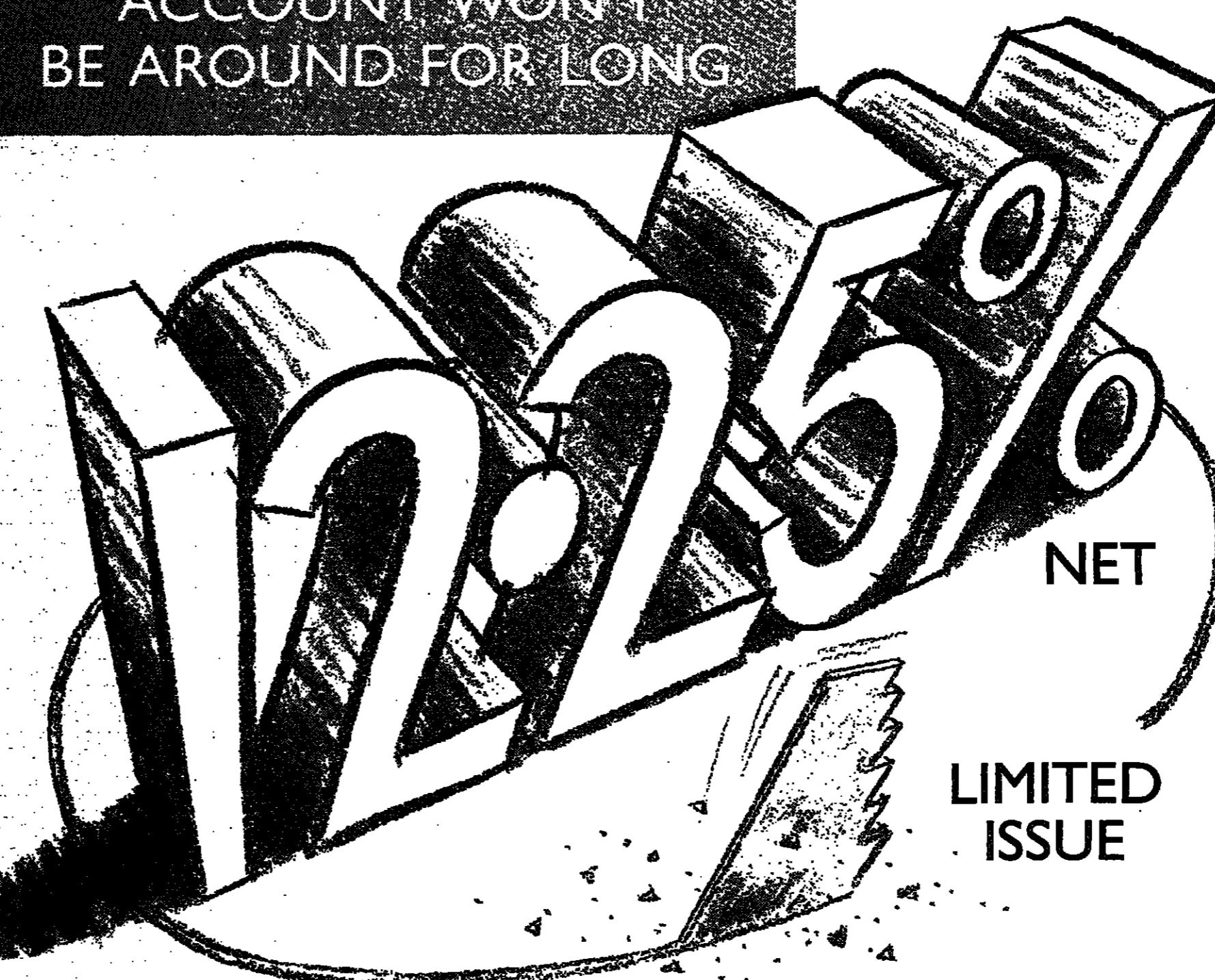
## Keepers baffled by penguin's survival

PETER TREVOR



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# Democracy's dilemma: how to punish crimes of dictatorship

From Roger Boyes  
Budapest

COMMUNISM'S end probably began in Hungary last summer, when the coffin of Imre Nagy, the ill-fated Prime Minister during the 1956 uprising, was dug up from a grave simply marked "Plot 301" and reburied in Budapest's Heroes' Square along with five other rehabilitated politicians. Nagy was back in favour 31 years after his execution.

The execution of Nagy was a mistake. So was the execution of the 277 Hungarian workers shot or hanged for their part in the revolution, of Bokharian, of Slansky, of Rajk, of a million less famous names wiped out in the Stalinist and immediately post-Stalinist years. All mistakes, officially admitted and regretted in the last three years. Who pays for them? Nobody.

Now Herr Erich Honecker, the disgraced East German leader, and Mr Todor Zhivkov, the former Bulgarian leader, are under arrest, awaiting trial that may never come.

Herr Honecker has already had charges of high treason dropped; soon, as so often before, the two former leaders will be regarded as little more than political embarrassments who can be

pensioned off. Yet the reports emerging about their rule in East Germany and Bulgaria should be enough to muster serious criminal cases against them.

This is a boom time for displaced dictators and their courtiers. Not only East European, but Latin-American leaders are living comfortably enough with their mistakes. The fact is that there is no thorough legal structure that can bring disgraced leaders to book for political crimes. The institution of amnesty protects the evil as well as the merely incompetent from any more complete version of justice.

Nikita Khrushchev, having unmasked Stalin's crimes against the Soviet people at the twentieth party congress, did not then pursue their perpetrators. The political savagery of General Franco went largely unpunished after his death. President Alfonso de los Ríos granted to the Argentinean generals invalid, but few of the senior military figures in the junta were punished.

Amnesties formed part of every important peace treaty until the 20th century, a tradition interrupted by the Nuremberg trials, which seemed to create a kind of precedent for dealing with "crimes against humanity" as well

as war crimes. Yet it is the practice of amnesty that has prevailed, especially in Eastern Europe.

Hugo Grotius, the classic international lawyer, wanted amnesty (specifically the one declared in the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648) to have validity "because the peace would have no secure standing if the old grievances that caused the war were allowed to stay alive".

Yet a democratic order, replacing a tyranny, should be able to make more subtle distinctions. Giving immunity to political criminals may, indeed, protect internal security, but putting deposed leaders on trial sends a much more important signal: it is a commitment to a policy based on human rights and responsible government.

The rush to execute Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu in Romania was born out of this dilemma: a real trial would have disclosed facts that would fatally have exposed the Romanian revolution; an amnesty, or a negotiated exile, for the Ceausescus, equally, would have compromised the new leadership. Unable to resolve this dilemma, the revolutionary council resorted to a form of lynch law.

The problem is that democratic legal

structures are not adequately able to assess crimes committed under an undemocratic system.

Both Nazi war criminals and the political managers of the Stalinist era can plead that they obeyed the existing laws and "only obeyed orders". That has been enough to get some Securitate officers off the hook in Timisoara. A typical sample from the trial: Judge: Who told you to shoot at the people? General: It was an order from above. — Who signed the order? — It was an oral order. — Who told you then? — Nobody told me directly; it was passed down.

Sometimes, as in the trial of the murderers of Father Jerzy Popiełuszko, the Solidarity priest in Poland, the prosecutor (trying to protect the status quo) chooses not to push the point of who issued orders for murder. Not revealing the name in public becomes part of the murderer's strategy, having benefited from an amnesty.

Communist transitions since the 1960s have spared deposed leaders. Mr Alexander Dubcek was allowed to become a forester. General Jaruzelski allowed Edward Gierk, the ousted party chief, to live as a pensioner in his big

Katowice villa and put only Mr Gierk's television chief, Maciej Szczepanski, in the dock. President Gorbachov has also allowed large parts of the Brezhnev bureaucracy to stay in place; only Brezhnev's son-in-law has faced a court. Anything more elaborate would have undermined the legitimacy of the new leaders, since both General Jaruzelski and Mr Gorbachov were important figures in the discredited outgoing regimes. There is no reason, however, why the newly democratic governments of Eastern Europe should have been constrained in such a way.

The success of the Nuremberg trials was that they were run by outsiders, by the victorious nations, and not by a notionally democratic German judiciary. That, too, was the weakness of Nuremberg. Its claim to universal justice was dented by the papering over of Soviet war crimes, notably the execution of Polish officers in Katyn.

Moreover, the idea that punishing German crime was really a matter for the great powers discouraged the West German establishment from seeking out criminals in later years. The 1954 amnesty for non-capital war crime and the increasing difficulty of finding

reliable witnesses to wartime massacres has reduced the number of investigations to a trickle. But, as the proposed British war crimes legislation showed, Nuremberg at least created a framework for continuing pursuit.

By contrast, the ex-interrogators, jailers and executioners of the Stalinist era are enjoying a sunny old age. Without a means to judge totalitarian crimes, the victims have no possibility of compensation. The whole of Eastern Europe is populated by the children of the victims. Most are not after financial damages but want kind of truth-telling.

The rewriting of history by the new democracy is all very well, but for the victims it is a matter of adjusting their own biographies.

When the democratic elections of Eastern Europe have all been fought and won, then, the new governments should try to take over communist party and police archives. Here, in dusty files, are the secrets that could one day serve as prosecution material.

If nothing else, these files can inform the historians as they rewrite the school books; that, too, is a form of justice. Then, at last, Nagy may be able to rest easy in his grave.

## Hungarian poll victor presses for EC membership

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

FRESH from his party's landslide victory in Sunday's parliamentary elections, Dr József Antall also said it was time to reshape Hungary's economic relations with the socialist nations of the crumbling Comecon trade bloc, with which he said the country had been "forced" to live.

The emphasis on economic restructuring reflects Hungary's precarious financial situation and concern about social unrest which might erupt if inflation and unemployment, already on the rise, cannot be controlled.

Final results from the poll give the Forum a strong chance to solve the nation's problems as it will have almost a two-thirds majority in the 386-seat Parliament with its centre-right allies. Its nearest rival, the liberal Alliance of Free Democrats, and its partner, the League of Young Democrats, captured 113 seats.

Dr Antall, a medical historian, likened the results to Hungary's last free elections in 1945 when the Smallholders Party emerged victorious from the ruins and chaos of the Second World War. "This proves that the reflexes of the Hungarian people have not been beaten by the pressure of 40 years of dictatorship."

Despite an often bitter election campaign, Dr Antall called for reconciliation and co-operation between all the parties to help rebuild the economy with Western

nation after more than four decades of devastating Communist rule.

He said: "We are not blinded by the euphoria of victory but the aspiration to govern."

The size of the win surprised even the most optimistic Forum predictions. One analyst attributed the Free Democrats' defeat to their image as "complainers and grumblers" who always projected a negative image in their campaign advertising.

Hungarians were more attracted to the Forum's positive approach to solving problems and their moderate positions which avoid extremist views, he said.

Leaders of the Free Democrats refused to admit that their party has reached an end because they now hold the position of being the strongest opposition party.

Mr Balint Magyar, a member of the party's executive council, said: "We have nothing to be ashamed of because no liberal party in the world has ever scored such a victory."

However, he blamed the poor showing on Hungary's new political structure which had left many voters uncertain and a slanderous campaign, including anti-Semitic leaflets, against its candidates.

Dr Antall has vehemently rejected any charges of anti-Semitism, racism or overt nationalism directed against his party, and yesterday castigated members of the foreign and domestic press for continuing to spread these rumours.

Setting the tone of what has always been a contentious relationship with the press, he told journalists they should change their sources of information if they wanted to be friends of Hungary.

### HUNGARIAN ELECTIONS

	Constit	PR	Net Inc	Total	Pct
Hungarian Democratic Forum*	114	40	11	165	42.74
Alliance of Free Democrats	35	34	23	92	23.83
Independent Smallholders Party*	11	16	16	43	11.13
Hungarian Socialist Party*	1	14	18	33	8.54
Federation of Young Democrats	1	8	12	21	5.44
Christian and Democratic People's Party*	3	8	10	21	5.54
Independents	6	0	0	6	1.55
Joint candidates	4	0	0	4	1.03
Agrarian Alliance	1	0	0	1	0.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Represents parties likely to form government coalition. Computer results and forecasts published by election office. %Percentage of representation in parliament.

## Communists win stake in future Slovenia coalition

From Richard Bassett, Ljubljana

WITH A few thousand votes still to be counted yesterday after Slovenia's first free elections since before the Second World War, this northern republic of Yugoslavia seems set for a coalition government between Communists and members of the opposition.

But in the important ballot for the Slovene presidency, a run-off election will have to take place on April 22, since none of the candidates polled more than 50 per cent of the votes.

Early unofficial results gave the Democratic Opposition Coalition (Demos) almost 50 per cent of the vote and the Communists only 20 per cent.

Official results were not expected until tomorrow and the final shape of Parliament may depend on which side can lure the third-placed Liberal

Party into a coalition. In the presidential race, Mr Milan Kucan, the former Communist Party chief and present Slovene President, who was expected to win, only polled 44.3 per cent of the votes cast.

Mr Jozef Pruchnik, the Demos leader and his closest rival, polled 26.3 per cent.

To the surprise of many here, the eccentric Mr Ivan Kramberger, whose campaign was made memorable largely by the activities of his pet monkey, managed to poll 18.9 per cent.

The turnout was provisionally estimated yesterday at just over 77 per cent, considerably lower than at the compulsory elections held over the last 40 years by the failure of many of their candidates to do well.

Mr Kucan claimed the vote was a "victory for moderation and common sense in Slovenia" and predicted an outright victory on April 22.

Mr Pruchnik, a more reserved personality, quietly told journalists yesterday that "we will certainly do much better in the second round when the issues will be more fully resolved."

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The turnout was provisionally estimated

# Soviet U-turn on arms deals leaves trail of confusion

From Peter Stothard, US Editor, Washington

US ARMS controllers, who are used to 12-hour days, are this week stepping up their schedules to 16 hours and more. Last week's visit by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, not only brought the summit date forward by several weeks, it also left confusion in its wake.

On Thursday the President's press secretary was predicting a "tough-love" summit — psychological jargon that suggests a kindly parent forcing a child to face the realities of drug addiction. The "tough lover" has to be prepared to throw the beloved out of the house for his own good: the implication for President Gorbachev is that, unless he looked into his country's inner soul and accepted what a mess it was, he too would be out in the cold.

By the weekend the White House would-be analysts felt like a rest. Mr Shevardnadze had explained his difficulties over Lithuania, hinting that the Soviet Union's body politic depended on US forbearance here.

He had then, seemingly systematically, withdrawn every arms control concession which Moscow had made this year — a series of moves which left Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, "disappointed" and his aides back at their drawing boards.

Washington appeared to have forgotten temporarily an important truth about drug addicts and decaying dictatorships — their ability to combine simple pleading with the most deviously applied threats. The most fashionable

explanation of the Soviet mood is that the military is reassessing its power over Mr Gorbachev. Others believe, with better precedent to back them up, that it is a classic negotiating ploy.

The nastiest surprise for the US team was Mr Shevardnadze's apparent retreat from the Ottawa Accord cutting Central Europe's superpower troops to 195,000 on each side with 30,000 extra US troops for Britain, Italy, Greece and Turkey. Mr Baker, with his characteristic keenness to bank a few extra public opinion poll points, had already claimed this in February as a big triumph which for the first time established the principle that the US could keep more troops in the area than the Soviet Union could.

Some US observers believe that the Soviet move was a reaction to the rapid rightward moves in Germany, as shown by the success of the Christian Democrat allies in the East German election. Moscow, it is argued, is increasingly keen to tie the Ottawa limits to new limits on the size of the German Army.

Others think that Mr Gorbachev is merely trying to keep Washington off balance; that, his generals notwithstanding, he is as keen as ever on the Ottawa deal. His former satellites, now acting under the "Sima" doctrine, are, in any case, not giving him much choice.

Another tougher-than-expected response from Mr Shevardnadze concerned the tricky question of counting cruise missiles launched from



A Georgian protester in traditional dress calling for independence in Tbilisi

## Lithuania faces rising pressure

Moscow

PRESIDENT Gorbachev's Presidential Council announced plans yesterday to step up pressure on Lithuania to withdraw its March 11 declaration of independence. A statement released by the official news agency, Tass, rejected apparent signs of compromise offered by Lithuania's leaders this week and accused them of leading the republic into a dead end.

Tass said the council decided on the need to take "further measures of economic, political and other character" aimed at "defending the Soviet constitution and... the interests of citizens living on the territory of the republic and in the country as a whole". It gave no details.

It said the council, chaired by Mr Gorbachev, rejected as "unconstructive" the answer given by the Lithuanian parliament to an appeal from Mr Gorbachev urging them to return to the Soviet fold.

The parliament last Thursday appealed to President Gorbachev for talks and indicated it was willing to give some ground on certain issues. But it refused to abandon the independence declaration.

The council said the parliament's reply "does not bring in any real ways of settling the problem and in fact takes the issue into a dead end". It added: "The present



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"All the functions" Frank.

## At least finding the money can be straightforward.

### Defence cuts plan to hasten unity

From Ian Murray, Bonn

WEST Germany is preparing early and important cutbacks in its defence budget to help speed the German reunification process.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, has met little resistance in the Cabinet in pressing for meaningful reductions in the military budget as he tries to draw up a timetable leading to elections for the parliament of a united Germany next year.

In a radio interview yesterday he said it was "extraordinarily important" for West Germany to set the right priorities now. Real cutbacks in the defence budget should be made to help finance reunification. Savings in the military budget, he argued, were possible, since stability would be the outcome of German and consequent European reunification.

West German diplomats are nevertheless concerned that the sheer pace of change in the East is catching the Nato allies flatfooted. Although there is firm commitment to a united Germany being in Nato, Herr Genscher and his strategists believe it is important to look ahead to a new European security system which will involve the Soviet Union, the United States and members of the Warsaw Pact.

Herr Genscher believes this new structure could be organized through the 35 mem-



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## Protest march on Tbilisi army

From Nick Worrall, Tbilisi

THOUSANDS of Georgian protesters marched on the Soviet Army's Transcaucasian military headquarters yesterday afternoon to demand its withdrawal from this Soviet republic and allow it to declare its independence from Moscow.

The march came after a 24-hour vigil in central Tbilisi to mark the anniversary of the killings on April 9 last year of 20 people. About 3,000 people were also injured in the violence unleashed by paratroopers armed with spades and poison gas.

The marchers converged on the headquarters which controls military operations in Georgia, and Armenia and Azerbaijan.

This time there was no military response to shouts of "occupiers", and the waving of banners with slogans like "murderers, occupiers, leave Georgia". One Georgian, a former Army colonel, called on all Georgian conscripts to burn their Soviet Army cards. A small detail of soldiers in fatigues watched the event at a distance.

Mr Irakli Tsereteli, leader of the National Independence Party, told the marchers: "We cannot declare independence while the occupying forces are here, so our first task is to remove this army of occupation from Georgia." The pro-

test came after a remarkable 24 hours in the city, which, in stark contrast to last year's Soviet brutality against a peaceful pro-independence demonstration, saw more than a quarter of a million people from Georgia and all over the Soviet Union milling in the city to pay their respects in solidarity with Georgian nationalists.

There have been floral tributes from delegations from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, and from the Ukraine, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Some 400 yards from the main Rustaveli Avenue lay a carpet of red carnations and tulips. Mourners wept openly as they passed the square in front of Government House, where the killings took place.

Religious services were held almost non-stop during the night, and at 4 am, exactly a year after the paratroopers set upon the defenceless crowd, an envoy of the Soviet general who led that operation was buried. Of the 20 people killed, 14 were women aged from 16 to 70, and many of the 3,000 poison gas victims are still receiving medical treatment.

The Georgian Communist authorities declared a public holiday yesterday, but closed restaurants, fearing that drinking might inflame passions to violence.

# Quebec separatism derailing plan for arranged marriage

From Sesja Ellicott, Quebec City

FOR the second time in 10 years Quebec is considering life outside Canada. This time the separation could actually happen.

The catalyst would be a historic accord designed to include Quebec in the Canadian constitution. The agreement is in danger of being scrapped because three other provinces oppose it.

The so-called Meech Lake accord will die unless the country's 10 provinces ratify it by June 23, but Newfoundland, Manitoba and New Brunswick object to a clause that recognizes Quebec as a "distinct society". Last week the Newfoundland legislature voted to rescind its earlier ratification of the accord. Manitoba and New Brunswick are still withholding ratification.

The three are worried that the provision will give Quebec special rights over the rest of Canada. Leaders of the 10 provinces and the Conservative Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, signed the basic accord in 1987. However, three years were allowed for the expected ratification and



and says: "We have two national sports in Canada — basketball and the constitution."

It now seems unlikely that Meech Lake will be ratified by its June deadline. The general orthodoxy is that Canadians would prefer a looser confederation. The Premier of Quebec, Mr Robert Bourassa, has proposed a structure similar to a model of post-1992 Europe that would weaken the power

of the central government, allow provincial sovereignty, but maintain an economic union.

Politicians have predicted

"balkanization" of Canada. Even in a country where constitutional disputes are common, many people agree that this year's crisis is probably Canada's gravest to date.

In 1980, when the issue last arose, a majority of Quebecois voted in a referendum to stay within Canada's confederation. Now, the nation's economic prosperity over the past decade and increased commerce under the 16-month-old US-Canada Free Trade Agreement have spawned a new generation of confident and bilingual Quebecois entrepreneurs who see no need to remain within Canada.

The niggling between Quebec and the rest of Canada has been stirred by a mixture of misunderstandings, insecurities and provincial sensitivities for years. English-speaking provinces have been smouldering since a decision in 1988 by Mr Bourassa, to forbid outdoor commercial signs in English.

The tangle of resentments has produced a constitutional crisis that reveals the deepest roots of Canada's woes — a resistance to becoming a melting pot like the United States. Instead, the huge country has prided itself on remaining a mosaic of ethnic groups, from the Eskimos of the northern tundra to the Chinese communities of Vancouver in the Pacific west.

Quebec is an island of

French-speakers in a continent where almost all the other 270 million people speak English. While the rest of Canada struggles against too much influence from south of the US border, the province has retained an undeniably French flavour. Renault 5 cars zip past Pontiacs and Chevrolets at traffic lights. The neon signs of a fast-food restaurant called "Marie Antoinette" mark the main road from the airport to Quebec City.

In many ways the Quebecois appear to feel less threatened than their English-speaking compatriots by their proximity to Uncle Sam. They drink their coffee from large bowls and eat croissants for breakfast. Their bookshops contain the latest *Editions Sénior* and modern philosophy from France.

"I don't consider the rest of Canada my country," says Mr Alain Lessard, a Quebec City bookseller with the twangy vowel sounds that distinguish Canadian French. "Quebec is my country. I don't speak English. I've never been to British Columbia."

By contrast, many English-

## Peru election foes face run-off after late surge by left

Lima

LEFT-WING Peruvian politicians have hinted they would support Señor Alberto Fujimori as presidential candidate to keep the novelist, Señor Mario Vargas Llosa, from reaching power.

Señor Fujimori, the son of Japanese immigrants, surged from nowhere to finish a close second to Señor Vargas Llosa in the first round of presidential elections.

Voters jammed the polls in defiance of left-wing guerrilla calls for a boycott. The two face each other in a run-off in late May or early June.

Unofficial returns from Sunday's elections gave Señor Vargas Llosa between 31 and 38 per cent of the vote, while Señor Fujimori, who a month earlier had less than 1 per cent in opinion polls, carried between 28 and 31 per cent.

Official results will not be ready for three weeks. As counting began, leaders of left-wing parties and the ruling, social democratic Aprista Party predicted victory for Señor Fujimori and some hinted they would back him.

"The Fujimori phenomenon has broken the mould... The citizenry will not accept what all power in Peru, with so much money, tried to impose," said Senator Henry Pease, the losing Marxist candidate, referring to the millions of dollars spent by the centre-right Señor Vargas Llosa on his campaign.

Señor Pease, who won about 7 per cent of the vote according to unofficial counts,

dropped out of the second round and threw his support behind him.

Both candidates dwarfed Señor Luis Alva Castro, the Aprista candidate who, hampered by Señor García's legacy of economic collapse and political violence, won about 14 per cent of the vote.

In his meteoric political career, Señor Fujimori has already introduced a fresh, homespun style to Peru's rough-and-tumble politics.

While other candidates relied on well-greased party machines, Señor Fujimori enlisted his family and friends to run his campaign, which he began by hitching a small stand to his tractor and touring Lima and the surrounding countryside.

"He has always been very demanding with us, even during the campaign. He always achieves what he proposes to do," Keiko Sofia, his daughter, aged 14, said.

At his news conference he said he would try to improve the lives of the seven million Peruvians who live in abject poverty as the first step towards fighting the 10 years of guerrilla violence which has claimed 17,000 lives.

"I will not make any political pacts with any parties. The people do not need any bosses to tell them how to vote," a beaming Señor Fujimori, who used to complain that the press paid him no attention, told a packed news conference.

He also turned down Señor Vargas Llosa's invitation to

(Reuters)

Dubbed by the local press as Tsunami, the Japanese term for tidal wave, Señor Fujimori won huge majorities in parts of the impoverished interior such as the guerrilla hotbed of Ayacucho.

(Reuters)

## Sihanouk plea for UN forces

Bangkok — Prince Norodom Sihanouk has asked the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to send troops to police Cambodia until elections in two or three years.

In a new peace proposal, the Prince has abandoned the demand for a four-party interim government headed by himself and including representatives of all three opposition factions and the Vietnamese-backed Government in Phnom Penh. He has dropped his demand that the Phnom Penh administration as well as the coalition's government, which is recognized by the UN, be dismantled before elections. (Reuters)

## Leader chosen

Peking — The Mongolian Democratic Party, the biggest democratic group, has chosen Mr Erdenej Banul, a leading intellectual, as its first party chief. (Reuters)

## Clash kills 5

Delhi — Hindus and Muslims clashed in the western state of Gujarat with police and news reports saying that at least five people died. (AP)

## Murder on rise

Washington — The number of murders in the US increased 4 per cent last year, up from the 3 per cent rise the year before, according to FBI statistics. (AP)

## Britons saved

Brest — A French fishing boat saved four British fishermen stranded in a lifeboat for more than 36 hours in the English Channel, maritime officials here said. (AP)

## Crack troops sent to Natal

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

ELITE South African combat units are being deployed in Natal in an attempt to quell heavy fighting between rival black communities, amid reports that riot police have come under fire from automatic rifles.

The troops from 32 Infantry Battalion and 61 Mechanized Battalion, who served in the Angolan and Namibian conflicts, are expected to arrive in the strife-torn townships around Pietermaritzburg today. It is understood that the infantry soldiers are mainly Portuguese-speaking Angolans expatriates whom it is hoped will be impartial in fulfilling their peacekeeping duties in the Zulu-speaking region.

The anti-apartheid opposition Democratic Party unexpectedly won a vote of no-confidence in the National Party, enabling them to take over the country's biggest municipality.

"We will unshackle Johannesburg from the old dictates of the past and open up a new era for this city," said Mr Ian Davidson, leader of the council's Democratic Party group.

Pressure on the Johannesburg National Party has mounted since the council acknowledged last month it paid informers to spy on groups seen as a threat to the Government.

• Mrs Mandella fined: Mrs Winnie Mandella, wife of Mr Nelson Mandella, has paid a 100 rand (£24) fine to avoid being arrested under a warrant issued by magistrates here last week for failing to make welfare payments, a senior public prosecutor said yesterday (APR reports).

Mrs Mandella paid the fine as an admission that she had failed to pay unemployment insurance last year for employees at a Johannesburg fish and chip shop in which she is a partner.

## Crack troops sent to Natal

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residents. Thousands of blacks stayed away from work in Pietermaritzburg and Durban yesterday, in response to a call from the Congress of South African Trade Unions. The pro-ANC organization said the action was in protest against the activities of KwaZulu police, whom it alleged were supporting Inkatha.

• Council takeover: The ruling National Party yesterday lost control of Johannesburg council following revelations that councillors ran a network which spied on citizens (Reuters reports).

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## Reprise for boat people

From Jonathan Braude  
Hong Kong

MR FRANCIS Maude, the Foreign Office Minister responsible for Hong Kong, yesterday said Britain would not forcibly repatriate boat people for the time being. He also welcomed the sharp decline in the number of new arrivals from Vietnam this year.

Vietnam has refused to accept those who are being returned against their will. A first batch of 51 boat people was forcibly repatriated on December 12 last year.

Speaking after a tour of Hong Kong's notorious Whitehead detention centre, where nearly 23,000 are being held in sordid conditions, Mr Maude said the fewer number of arrivals could ease some of the pressure on Hong Kong.

Last year 34,000 boat people arrived in the colony. So far this year, some 730 have arrived, compared with 1,547 during the same period last year.

• Party pledge: Mr Martin Lee, elected chairman of the colony's newest political party on Sunday, said yesterday the United Democratic of Hong Kong would not seek to promote democracy in China (Reuters reports). It would limit its scope to Hong Kong.

The 17-strong Argentine delegation was led by Dr Carlos Manuel Muniz, a former foreign minister, and included Senator Eduardo

## Visa accord cements UK-Argentina ties

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

BRITAIN and Argentina yesterday put aside most of their remaining differences when Señor Domingo Cavallo, the Foreign Minister, became the first senior Argentine official to visit London since the Falklands war.

Señor Cavallo invited Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, to visit Buenos Aires, and Mr Hurd accepted. They signed an agreement to abolish the requirement for visas for visits by British and Argentine people to each other's countries.

Later Señor Cavallo joined Mrs Thatcher at a lunch for foreign visitors attending the World Ministerial Drugs Summit, which Britain is hosting.

In another move, a new forum to enhance Anglo-Argentine friendship completed its first conference at a country hotel near London. It followed the pattern of the annual Königswinter conferences between British and German representatives which began after the Second World War and reached their 40th anniversary last month.

The 17-strong Argentine delegation was led by Dr Carlos Manuel Muniz, a former foreign minister, and included Senator Eduardo

which we can build up traditional co-operation. They also discussed drugs, investment and South Atlantic fisheries.

The moves underlined the recovery of a relationship which served both countries' interests until the war. Before 1982, Britain was one of Argentina's main trade partners in Europe, while Argentina was the focus of British investment in South America.

Señor Cavallo said the people of Argentina were very happy with the restoration of normal relations.

Mr Hurd said: "We had a very practical discussion identifying several ways in

which emerged from talks in Madrid in February on renewing full diplomatic relations. It has been negotiated surprisingly quickly, in view of the slower pace on some other issues.

It was agreed in Madrid that a visit to Falklands war graves by relatives of Argentine servicemen who died in the war would be arranged, but no date has yet been announced. The delay is thought to reflect the lack of enthusiasm among Falkland Islanders for any renewal of contacts with Argentina. Their views have, if anything, hardened in recent months.

Argentine sources said Buenos Aires would do its best to convince the islanders that their interests would not be threatened by its claim to sovereignty of the Falklands.

The real reason behind the dark clouds affecting Iraqi-US relations is the interference of the Zionist lobby in American politics which led to the United States mis-estimating the situation," the President told Arab journalists at the weekend.

The call to step up weapons production was made by Mr Hassan al-Bassam, director of the Arab League's Military Affairs Department.

From James Pringle  
Jaffna

IT WENT against social and religious conventions, the elderly Hindu schoolteacher said, and he did not like it. Other citizens in this town in the heartland of Sri Lanka's Tamil region just shook their heads.

The objects of their disapproval were the women of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who came marching out of their jungle camps alongside the men as the last of the chastened Indian peace-keeping force pulled out of Jaffna almost two weeks ago. Since then the women have been seen in twos cycling around Jaffna in their camouflage fatigues, AK-47 rifles slung on their backs.

The last few years of war, first against the Sinhalese-dominated Sri Lankan Army, then against the Indian peace-keeping force, have destroyed

part of Jaffna and killed and maimed many people. But this latest development is almost too much.

"I don't know," said the old teacher shaking his head. "Young Hindu girls with weapons — the social fabric of our lives here has been destroyed."

The Tiger members are certainly a new kind of Hindu woman — prepared to take up arms and kill or die for the cause of an independent Tamil homeland separate from the majority Buddhist Sinhalese of Sri Lanka. In a reversal of traditional roles, they are also prepared to give orders to men.

Their political ideas are themselves surprising. They are fighting a war, the Tiger women assert, to create a society like that of Switzerland — surely the only guerrilla fighters to pick up an AK-47 for such a cause.

Miss Jeya Mylavanam, aged 27, is both the military and political leader

of a platoon of 30 Tiger women who have taken over a rambling old house on the outskirts of Jaffna.

Like other female Tigers, she wears a couple of glass cyanide capsules like a talisman around her neck. On capture, she said, her orders are to break the glass of one of them with her teeth and swallow the poison. A group of 14 Tamil Tiger male soldiers once did this in Indian custody, and only a few survived. The men, however, carry only one cyanide capsule.

Miss Mylavanam has not quite squared her policies with those of Mr Velupillai Prabhakaran, the Tamil Tiger leader, who has also just emerged from his jungle headquarters. His lieutenants have been holding talks with President Premadasa amid signs of a deal being worked out that would give the Tamils substantial autonomy within a

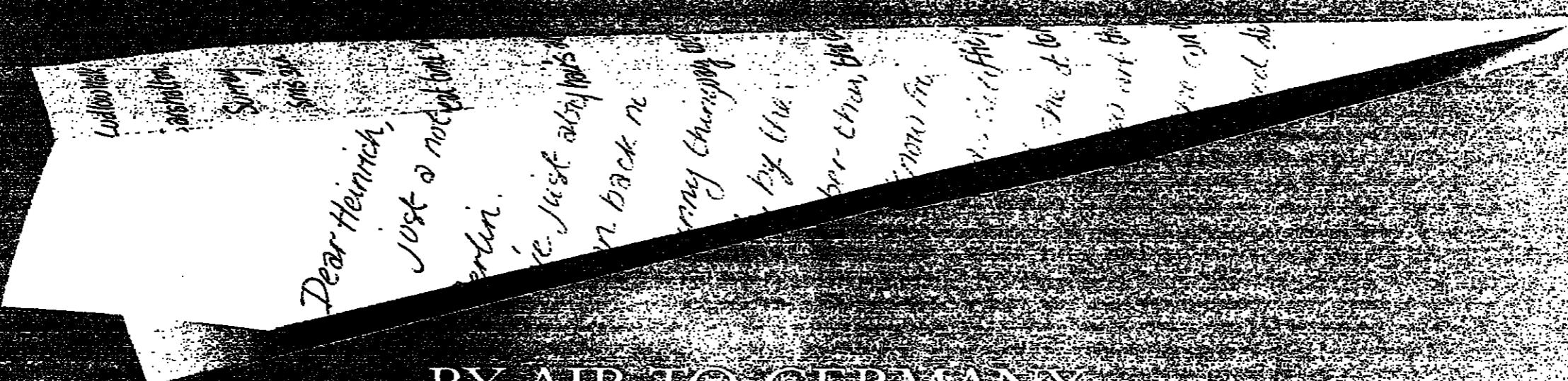
united Sri Lankan state. Miss Mylavanam does not seem quite as conciliatory.

"We are fighting Sri Lankan military oppression," she said in one of the first interviews given by a Tiger female fighter. "They have tried to destroy our culture. Now we want our own separate state without any interference."

Neither she nor the other Tiger women were afraid to die: 27 of them already had. "We don't like to die but we are fighting for freedom," the former political science student at Jaffna University said. "Our life is very small, but the cause is big."

As she spoke, some of her Amazons were practising dismantling and re-assembling their rifles. The only men in evidence were washing the floor of the girls' quarters or scything brush in the garden.

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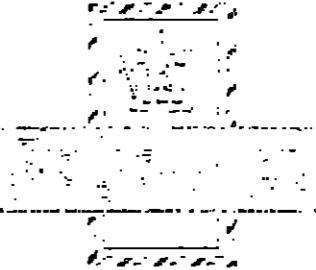
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## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on page 31

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# Nepal's demi-god must find new role

NEPALESE used to laugh at the story of King Farouk of Egypt, who, when he was toppled, said that one day there would be just five kings in the world: those of hearts, spades, clubs, diamonds, and England.

They laughed because their own monarch, King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dede, was certain to be the sixth, for he was the inseparable head of the country and truly well beloved of all his people.

For those who saw the local peasantry prostrate themselves as the King drove past in procession, or passionately argue that he was divine, an incarnation of the Hindu God Vishnu, it was hard to discredit their confidence.

King Birendra is the third Nepalese monarch since the end of the Rana shogunate. The monarchy's popularity is at least partly due to the fact that for more than a century, until 1950, it had not exercised power. Unchecked by controversy it became, like the emperors of Japan, an object of veneration.

The restoration of Tribhuvan, King Birendra's grandfather, was part of a national insurrection against the Ranas and, paradoxically, the royal family became a rallying point for democracy. Consequently 10 years later, when his father, Mahendra, overthrew the delicate balance between representative government and restored monarchy, masking the King of Nepal the chief executive as well as head of state, it was far from clear that

the autocratic rule of King Birendra of Nepal over an impoverished and forgotten corner of the world had been weakened by the violence of the weekend and his reaction to it. Karan Thapar profiles a monarch under siege

he was laying the ground for the greatest threat the crown would face. Yet that is precisely the position King Birendra is in today.

Born in 1946, educated at Eton and Harvard, and married to a Rana daughter, the King is a plump, soft-spoken, shy man with few, if any, of the trappings of absolute monarchy.

His public image, that of a man stiffly attired in military uniform, his eyes inaccessible behind dark glasses, reveals little of the private man. Indeed, the world's last ruling Hindu monarch seems more comfortable in a photograph



King Birendra: Lifted ban at the eleventh hour

taken in the early 1960s, on a weekend break from Eton, in which he sports winkle-pickers and a nifty cut in suits.

His housemaster recalls the young Crown Prince's period at Eton as a happy one. Although he excelled at nothing in particular, he adapted admirably. Tom Storor (now Lord Camoys) spent six months in Kathmandu tutoring him for his Common Entrance, and the Crown Prince spent many of his Eton holidays at Storor Park, a little further up the Thames. Here he met Graham Greene, Malcolm Sargent, John Piper, John Betjeman and many diplomats and other public figures, in a course in the ways of a world dramatically different from the one he will inherit and rule.

Exposure to the nascent social movements of the 1960s, to the playing fields and flagging system of Eton, all combined to provide the future King with a singular, if not unexpected, education. It is obviously one he sets great store by, as his son, Crown Prince Dipendra, is currently in his last year at Eton.

In 1972, when he was only 29, he became King Birendra with unlimited power over the lives of his 18 million subjects — 12 years earlier his father

had dispensed with a brief democratic experiment, abolishing political parties and replacing the directly elected legislature with a network of local councils called *panchayats* culminating in an indirectly elected National *panchayat*. A referendum in 1980 confirmed that most of his subjects were happy with the arrangement.

For most of the time under his reign, Nepal has been a forgotten corner of the world. Even the monarchy's official intolerance of religions other than Hinduism, which should have attracted outside concern, was ignored. The world was content to accept Nepal as a happy Shangri-La.

Yet this image of a Himalayan Ruritania, picturesque, peaceful and primitive, was always vitiated by the tensions of Nepalese poverty and politics which lay festering underneath. King Birendra's throne has been periodically shaken by popular protests but, until now, he has successfully calmed them.

His strength lay in the unquestioning loyalty of the country's peasant majority. They remained unperturbed by the liberal emotions which excited the urban and intellectual minorities who have represented the political straitjacket they have lived within.

That changed this year. This time the demands for democracy spread beyond the kingdom's towns and into the hinterland villages. The numbers protesting on Kathmandu streets were evidence that a movement previously limited to the urban population had become a nationwide phenomenon.

Ironically, the King was partly responsible for this. The cautious economic policies he pursued failed to make any significant dent in Nepal's poverty, and it remains one of the 10 poorest countries in the world. Resentments have built up, fuelled particularly by widely believed allegations that peripheral but ubiquitous members of the royal family have made fortunes out of corruption.

Accusations have been levelled at his wife, Queen Aishwarya, whom he married in a six-day ceremony in 1970. To her are attributed the Machiavellian intrigues and the aggression to which Lady Macbeth was so immoderately inclined. Rumours of embezzlement (from tourism and charity funds) abound, also implicating the King's younger brother.

Impossible to confirm, such allegations are fuelled by the imperious, brash posturings of both these figures, next to whom the King appears strangely demure. In these circumstances the formally banned political parties were bound to find a receptive audience for their demands.

They were helped by the increasingly frequent sojourns many Nepalese now spent in neighbouring India. They cross the open border in search of employment but return influenced by the political system.

With his agreement to amend the Constitution to lift the ban on political parties, King Birendra appeared to concede defeat. But his announcement left many questions unanswered. When will the proposed amendment be carried out? Will there be an interim government until



A crowd of jubilant Nepalese waving party banners in Kathmandu yesterday after hearing news that King Birendra had lifted the 30-year ban on political parties

them? And will the next elections, due in less than a year, be on a multi-party basis?

Yet, if these are merely procedural queries, there are also some substantive doubts that will have to be cleared by the King. Under the present *panchayat* system the monarch has the power to nominate almost a fifth of the National Assembly's members, the rest being elected indirectly. Will that change?

At present the King appoints the Prime Minister and has the power to dissolve Parliament. Will that go? In fact, did Sunday night's royal proclamation herald the end of an absolute monarchy and the beginning of a constitutional regime? The celebrations on the streets of Kathmandu are a sign that Birendra's subjects think it does.

As yet none of them wishes to see the monarchy itself replaced. They see it as a symbol of Nepal's sovereignty, and identity with King Birendra, a living affirmation of the kingdom's unique status.

But, if King Birendra proves these expectations of a constitutional monarchy wrong, the anger he will provoke could endanger his own future.

Which, no doubt, is why he will not, even if hereafter he seems to drag his feet.

As a constitutional monarch the King's future should be secure, and the royal succession to Crown Prince Dipendra guaranteed; but it will not by any means be problem free.

The lifting of the ban on political parties will legitimate Nepal's fractious and fragmented communist parties and, for ideological reasons alone, they will be opponents of the monarchical system.

At the same time the King will have to handle his former supporters, who served in the *panchayat* system but will carry little credibility hereafter. They are the losers and will look to him for succour. Many could feel let down, but the King's sympathy could easily be mistaken for attempts to renege on the new Constitution.

The greatest problem could come from the policies of the Nepalese Congress Party, the largest and most popular in the kingdom. It seems likely to win the next election and it is committed to "socialist" reforms. But will the King, by then reduced to a constitutional monarch, accept land reforms and nationalisation, with perhaps forcible confiscation and minimal compensation, and a creeping egalitarianism, which steadily undermines the aristocracy and the royal family's friends?

Unlike the communists, Congress wants to retain a constitutional monarch. Mr Ganesh Man Singh, aged 75, the Congress leader — ill in hospital — is on the radical left.

The big imponderable is whether the King will accept the demand for full Western-style democracy. He has not indicated how much power he is willing to give up, or whether he will agree to be a British-style monarch.

## Violence gives way to dancing on the streets

From Christopher Thomas  
Kathmandu

NEPAL celebrated yesterday, with tens of thousands of people taking to the streets in towns and villages, their faces painted red as they danced, chanted, waved flags and tossed confetti from rooftops.

It would have been a day filled with mass violence if King Birendra had not announced at the eleventh hour on Sunday that he was lifting a 30-year ban on political parties. Opposition plans for nationwide protests in defiance of shoot-on-sight curfews were immediately cancelled.

Western diplomats put the death toll from last Friday's uprising at around 150. The last six fatalities happened after news of the King's climb-down was issued. Youths went on to the streets of Kathmandu to celebrate but were shot by security forces as the curfew was still in effect.

Police and troops stood by yesterday, watching the spectacular sight of mass jubilation that swept through Kathmandu as huge convoys of buses, lorries and tractors brought hundreds of thousands of people from outlying areas.

Youths sat on rooftops and on top of statues, waving the flags of hitherto banned political parties and chanting slogans against the corrupt *panchayat* system of non-party government. Some demanded stern action against Mr Marich Man Singh Shrestha, the former Prime Minister, regarded as the architect of the Government's hard-line security policy.

Once the festival atmosphere dies down, fundamental questions about Nepal's political future will have to be faced. Some hard bargaining between politicians and the royal palace lies ahead, and there will be enormous potential for more violence if the King seeks to retain some of his powers. Under the *panchayat* system, he has been a virtual dictator, if a somewhat benevolent one.

Disused political machinery is now creaking back into use. One of the main political forces, the United Left Front — an amalgam of seven communist parties — will face the challenge of trying to stay together without a common purpose.

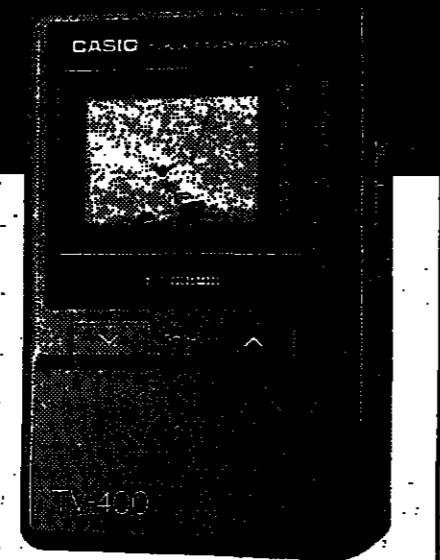
In Nepali terms the communists are mostly moderate socialists who generally favour steady moves towards the formation of a republic.

Centre-right groupings are bound to emerge out of *panchayat* elements. The Nepali Congress, the biggest single party, will pursue a left-of-centre platform and could form an electoral alliance with the communists, although that is an outside possibility.

Unlike the communists, Congress wants to retain a constitutional monarch. Mr Ganesh Man Singh, aged 75, the Congress leader — ill in hospital — is on the radical left.

The big imponderable is whether the King will accept the demand for full Western-style democracy. He has not indicated how much power he is willing to give up, or whether he will agree to be a British-style monarch.

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## Tournament of the Mind

Here are the answers for Rounds 11 to 20 of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind. Entries are now being marked by Mensa and the names of the finalists will be published on April 20. The finals will begin on April 24

Round 15: diagrams: 64; verbal: homelands and clearance; logic: 17 of 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p and 22p coins; maths: yes; miscellany: Cardinal Wolsey (1,427).

Round 16: diagrams: 7 ways; verbal: Belize, Panama and Turkey; logic: "When I pray and think I think and pray to several subjects" (Shakespeare); maths: 1.95 years; miscellany: Ka-bah.

Round 17: diagrams: 70; verbal: (kier, pier, peer) — peer; logic: O (odd) and even numbers; maths: 50mph average speed; miscellany: The world real tennis championship (9,973).

Round 18: diagrams: Six Bs; verbal: stipple, pastis, psalms; logic: 2292-230; maths: 96 miles; miscellany: 1973, 1974 and 1977 (9,985).

Round 19: diagrams: 825; verbal: picareques and novelties; N and R are the extra letters; logic: 12.15pm; maths: 20 hours; miscellany: Cotopaxi (3,669).

Round 20: diagrams: 13 (A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8); verbal: rhythm; logic: 62 or 69 (both are correct, using different logic); maths: 24.45; miscellany: Pierre Schaeffer and Pierre Henry (10,507).

TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

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# TIMES DIARY

## ALAN HAMILTON

Sources deep within the Establishment are becoming ever more insistent in pointing the towards what they are convinced is a significant conjunction of facts. In June, the Queen holds the annual Garter ceremony at St George's Chapel, Windsor, at which new members of our highest order of chivalry are installed. Three years ago she changed the rules of this hitherto male preserve (other royalty excepted) to open the Garter on equal terms to men and women. The Order, restricted to 24 ordinary members, has a vacancy. By now you will see what I am getting at. The last serving prime minister to be so decorated was Sir Winston Churchill, just before the Coronation in 1953. The great man was by then past his prime, and indeed retired from office less than two years later amid an undercurrent of muttering that he had held on for too long. Sources not very distant from the throne tell me that the current vacancy will be filled by the longest-serving prime minister this century. If that is so, I cannot but wonder if it amounts to the gentlest and subtlest of hints from the Sovereign that it is again time for a graceful withdrawal. The personal relationship between the two women has, I believe, been cool ever since the Prime Minister arrived for the first Tuesday audience of her reign wearing a dress identical to the Queen's. Suggestions from Downing Street that better liaison might prevent a repetition were disdainfully rejected by the Palace.

• Oh for the good old days of ILEA. Barking and Dagenham Council, advertising for primary school teachers, invites candidates to write to the town hall "to receive an application form".

Leaving the heavy task of German reunification to others for the next fortnight, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has gone off for his 16th annual "cure" at the Hotel Saint George among the Austrian lakes at Bad Hofgastein. This year there is more Kohl than ever to get rid of; he weighed in at 181lb at the start of his period of unwanted abstinence, but on past form should strip off about a stone before returning lean and ravenously hungry to the wall-dismantling game. Kohl watchers have found that it generally takes around eight weeks for him to put it all back on again. Ostkar Lafontaine, his radical socialist rival for the chancellorship next December, is no mean trencherman himself, and his exploits with knife and fork have prompted his critics to complain that he "talks left but lives right". One current Lafontaine joke tells how, after a particularly gargantuan restaurant meal, he sent for the waiter and commanded: "Now bring me some money. I want to pay."

Lord Justice Woolf, who has been appointed to head the judicial inquiry into recent events at Strangeways Prison, is no stranger to riots. He will, I am sure, recall the night of the Guy Fawkes celebration that went wrong. While a law student at University College London in 1953, he was one of 2,000 undergraduates



Woolf: riotous youth

whose November 5 variety rag somehow ran out of control and attracted the attention of large numbers of the constabulary. A contemporary issue of *Pi*, the UCL magazine, reports that 189 participants were arrested and appeared at Bow Street magistrates' court on charges of obstructing the police, most of them to be relieved of 20 shillings. Whether His Lordship was one of those arraigned as a result of this jape I cannot say for certain at this distance, but the experience, I am sure, can have done him nothing but good.

This column - well-known for its love and appreciation of single malt Scotch whisky - needed artificial respiration and a small dram on learning of some of the water of life for sale at what must be an all-time record of £2,000 a bottle. Shock was engendered, not by the price itself, but by disbelief that a Scotsman would ever part with so much for his basic groceries. He wouldn't, of course. Ninety bottles from the Ben Nevis distillery at Fort William, distilled in 1926, are on their way to Japan, where the aforesaid outrageous price will be paid without demur by the Scotch-loving Japanese. This could be seen as a great British export coup but for one thing: last year the Japanese bought the distillery.

THERE is a prawn on my shoe. The man on my right is rabbiting on captivally about the threat of the core curriculum to all we have and hold, and the woman on my left is being no less fascinating about the gratuitous degradation of slopping-out, and my head is swivelling sociably between the two and giving every appearance of bi-polar commitment, but what it is really thinking about is the prawn on my shoe.

One of the many things it is thinking about the prawn on my shoe is whether the people to its left and right are also thinking about the prawn on my shoe. I have not noticed them glancing down, but when I turn to the woman on my left, how can I be sure that the man on my right is not staring at my toecap?

For that is where the prawn is. When I say it is on my shoe, I do

Since 1966 the French attitude towards the defence of Europe has been largely ambiguous. A part of Nato and yet not a part; committed to European security, yet not integrated with the alliance's command structure. As the Defence Secretary, Tom King, meets his counterpart, Jean-Pierre Chevénement, in Paris today, France's defence posture vis-à-vis the alliance will be the subject of serious discussion because of the need to devise a new military strategy in the light of the changed security situation.

The British government is already talking to its allies about a new multinational force to defend Europe. At present, Nato's forward deployments in West Germany consist of multinational army groups, but are based on a number of national corps (each of three or four divisions). Thus, the Northern Army Group, responsible for the forward defence of West Germany south of Schleswig-Holstein and north of the Gottingen-Liege axis, includes land forces from Britain, Belgium and Holland, as well as West Germany's northern divisions and one US brigade.

The new idea, still at an early stage, is to bring member countries together at a lower level. This would entail multinational

## Michael Evans sees no prospect of change in French thinking

# Still Nato's odd man out

corps, made up of national divisions, with up to 15,000 men in each division. Now that the threat of conventional war between the 16 Nato nations and the seven countries of the Warsaw Pact has been removed, smaller multinational forces would heighten the impression of common European security, build confidence and perhaps help to solve problems raised by German reunification.

But what role will France have in a reshaped Europe? Judging by a number of statements from British ministers, notably Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, in a speech in Paris two weeks ago, the Government believes it is time that France considered renouncing its ambiguous position and throw in its lot with a new-style Nato.

This is probably a false hope. The French believe their reasons for withdrawing from Nato's integrated military structure in 1966 are even more valid today: they believe that defence is a national responsibility and that

integration of commands imposes limitations on sovereignty. They were doubtful in 1966 about long-term American commitment to Europe, and today consider it even less reliable because of pressures from Congress to reduce force levels.

The French believe that as far as the future security of Europe is concerned, the emphasis will be on national capabilities, national decision-making and co-operation between sovereign states. What the French say about defence is exactly what Mrs Thatcher says about Europe, and what Mrs Thatcher says about defence is what the French say about the European Community.

But the French argument contains a number of obvious weaknesses. France is apparently interested in the idea of smaller multinational forces, but only if they involve exclusively European troops. Yet it wants a continuing US military presence in Europe - including nuclear weapons. The problem is that

the French see integrated European defence as an offshoot of political and economic integration, whereas others, such as Britain, see it simply as a way of making European defence more co-operative. It is a conceptually different way of looking at the same issue.

Yet even the British Ministry of Defence acknowledges that there is a dichotomy between what is politically desirable and what is militarily sensible. President Kennedy once proposed multinational crews for nuclear-armed US warships in and around Europe. This was supposed to give Europe a share of nuclear decision-making and was the forerunner of the dual-key concept, but the idea quickly foundered. A trial on one ship failed, due to differences in language, temperament and operating procedures.

In spite of France's reluctance to return to the Nato fold, its contribution to the alliance, particularly in recent years, should not be underestimated.

While operating an independent command structure, France has retained observers and liaison officers in many different areas of Nato activity, including virtually every level of the planning and command organization. The French have also taken part in many bilateral exercises.

France has also steadily improved its co-operation with Nato and bilaterally with Britain, Belgium and West Germany, including the establishment of a Franco-German brigade. In March 1986, France agreed to the potential stationing of French nuclear weapons on German soil. A year later, Britain and France agreed to strengthen co-operation in both arms procurement and operations. This included discussions on nuclear policy and joint management of their American airborne early warning E-3A Awacs programmes.

Co-operation over nuclear policy may lead to a significant change in the traditional British approach towards the purchase

of nuclear weapons. The Ministry of Defence is considering the possibility of replacing the RAF's near-obsolete WE177 free-fall bomb by joining the French in developing an air-launched stand-off nuclear missile based on a longer-range version of France's ASMP weapon, which is carried on the Mirage 2000.

All these moves are seen by France's allies as steps towards a greater French involvement in the joint defence of Europe. But as Britain and other Nato countries try to frame a new security arrangement for the continent, the participation of France remains one of the most sensitive issues.

The French like the idea of greater European responsibility, but they do not want to be sucked back into a security organization that can loosely be described as Nato's integrated structure Mark II.

However, the weakness of the French position today is the same as it was in 1966. It is one thing for France to opt out, but suppose the Germans, Italians, or British were to do the same? If those countries decided on a purely national defence, linked in a sort of loose co-operation with their allies, there would be no effective defence of Western Europe at all.

Woodrow Wyatt on the need to support the Hong Kong plan

## Think again, Mr Tebbit

Next week in the Commons Mr Norman Tebbit aims to defeat the Government over Hong Kong. He depends on the backing of the Labour Party and as many as 80 Tory MPs. To contemplate such an action with the Government in its present troubles is a stunning act of disloyalty. If he succeeds, he will severely damage the Conservatives' general election prospects.

Mr Tebbit misunderstands the Hong Kong situation. In 1962 we took away the full British passports, to which 3.5 million of the nearly six million Hong Kongers would otherwise now be entitled. Though they too live in dependent territories, the Gibraltarians and the Falklanders retain theirs. But they are European, as well as few in number. The immoral withdrawal of Hong Kongers' passports came from the fear of Britain becoming too multi-racial, against the will of the population. This fear has been heightened because the crime rate of those of Caribbean origin, particularly Jamaican, is higher than that of other ethnic minorities, and by the antics of some Muslims calling for the death of Salman Rushdie.

So Mr Tebbit utters a distinctly racist note about Hong Kongers. With the sublime conceit of many British, he thinks that most of the 50,000 householders and their families to whom the Government intends to offer full passports long to settle here. I think that Britain is the best country in the world, but this is not the view of Hong Kongers. For some years 90 per cent of Hong Kong's permanent emigrants have gone to Canada, the US or Australia. For a multitude of reasons, including the climate and the welcome they get in those countries, Britain is just about the last choice of Hong Kongers.

Mr Tebbit will not get it into his head that the issue of a small number of passports to Hong Kongers is designed to hold in place those essential to the functioning of the economy until July 1997, when Peking takes over. If Peking became intolerably tyrannical, they could escape, but for the great majority, Britain would be merely a staging post.

Because of the lack of full British passports, thousands of key people are leaving Hong Kong to get foreign residential qualifications. In 1980-86, the average yearly outflow was 20,600. Last year it was 42,000. This year the best figures available indicate it will be 55,000. The closer to 1997, the greater will be the outflow, leaving Hong Kong without those essential to its adequate functioning.

This concerns us, not just Hong Kongers. We have huge interests there and its collapse would be a calamity for Britain and China. That is why, despite Peking's attacks on the projected British passports, it will not dishonour them, even supposing it were administratively pos-

sible, which it is not. In accepting non-Hong Kong residents as 20 per cent of the Legislative Assembly after 1997, Peking shows its realism.

Since last July, after the bloody events in Tiansamen Square, opinion polls in Britain have recorded a drop in support for the granting of passports to Hong Kongers from 61 per cent to the poll in *The Independent on Sunday* last weekend which found that 65 per cent are against. This poll displayed an unpleasant streak of racism, including 67 per cent saying they wanted no more Jews. Those who aspire to be statesmen should not pander to such latent, I hope temporary, racism.

Labour shamelessly follows the same route as Mr Tebbit, hypocritically demanding more passports for all Hong Kongers (an impossibility) or none. It brazenly claims that the Government's selection system is aimed at helping only the rich, and therefore must be defeated. Of the 50,000 householders to be offered passports, only 500 are those of rich entrepreneurs (who could doubtless get British passports anyway, as they are available to anyone with an investment of £200,000 plus residence). The rest are teachers, doctors, nurses, engineers, computer programmers, accountants, business managers, administrators, civil servants, police and the like. If too many leave before 1997, Hong Kong will be crippled.

Although Hong Kongers feel the number of passports on offer is far too niggardly, there has been little protest that the selection system is unfair, and there is a recognition that the British government, certainly at the moment, has gone as far as it can. If those selected stay, it will give more confidence to all to remain, and even Peking, after it has got over its tantrums, will acknowledge that the scheme is helpful to Hong Kong's future.

It is sad to see the Labour Party, which once contained many idealists, however misguided, blatantly playing the racist card. This is in the hope of winning votes from Mrs Thatcher without caring about the unsavoury means. However, there may be some decent Labour MPs too ashamed of their party's unpleasant policy to vote for it. Also, some North Ireland MPs and those led by Mr Paddy Ashdown and Dr Owen will support the Government. Yet there may be a sizeable number of Tory MPs, many for reasons unconnected with Hong Kong, determined to back Mr Tebbit's wish to defeat the Government.

Their success would foolishly jeopardize their chances of winning the general election in 1992. May I suggest to Mr Tebbit that he has had his say, we all know where he stands on Hong Kong, and that he would gain stature if he were now to refrain from stabbing his own government.

## No more truck with terror legitimized

B y refusing to extradite the Maze escapee Dermot Finucane and Owen Carron, wanted in Northern Ireland on firearms charges, the Irish Supreme Court has asserted "the right of individuals, as a form of political activity, to raise an army and wage certain forms of war in the name of the Irish people against the wishes of the vast majority".

The words are those of Garrett Fitzgerald, the former Irish prime minister and now a respected elder statesman. He does not exaggerate. The two decisions - Finucane last month, Carron last week - follow a ruling by the same court on March 1 concerning Article 2 of the Irish Constitution, which declares: "The national territory consists of the whole island of Ireland, its islands and the territorial seas."

Taken together, the court's three decisions provide judicial legitimacy for the IRA's campaign of violence for the reintegration of Ireland. In view of this, the British government should reconsider the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

When the agreement was signed in November 1985, Mrs Thatcher and her ministers seem to have assumed that Article 2 had somehow become inert or irrelevant. They should now take note that it is very much alive, and is binding on the government which is Britain's partner in that singularly equivocal agreement.

In handing down the Supreme Court's unanimous decision of March 1, finding the Anglo-Irish Agreement to be compatible with the Republic's 1937 Constitution, Chief Justice Finlay declared that "the reintegration of the national territory is a constitutional imperative".

This of course makes nonsense of Article 1a of the agreement, as understood by Britain. In that article, both parties "affirm that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would only come about with the consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland". The British side assumed - imprudently - that, for both sides, "the status of Northern Ireland" meant its status as part of the United Kingdom, but it is now clear that for the Irish signatory, Northern Ireland has no legitimate status other than as part of the national territory of the Republic of Ireland.

There is a link between the "constitutional imperative" decision of the Supreme Court and the subsequent extradition decisions. This was apparent in Mr Justice Walsh's far-reaching ruling in the case of Finucane and James Clarke (March 13), quoted by me on this page last month, that people charged with politically motivated offences should not be extradited "when the objective of those offences [is] to secure Irish unity". If that ruling is maintained by the court in future cases, no IRA man can ever again be extradited.



After a series of Dublin Supreme Court decisions benefiting the IRA, Conor Cruise O'Brien sees an urgent need for Britain to review the Anglo-Irish Agreement

The Walsh ruling overthrew a 1987 decision (*Russell v. Fanring*) that efforts to integrate the national territory through force of arms involved a usurpation of the functions of government; they could therefore not be deemed to be "political", and so did not escape extradition.

Politically, the most serious aspect of this series of decisions is the overturning of the doctrine that paramilitary violence in the cause of unity usurps the functions of government. Legally, that doctrine may have found its first expression in Ireland in 1987, but politically it is much older. The first government of the state maintained it rigorously and so, after 1933, did Eamon de Valera's Fianna Fail.

De Valera's constitution asserted the unity of the national territory, but it was for the elected government, and it alone, to determine how progress towards unity was to be achieved. Under de Valera and his immediate successor, Sean Lemass, efforts by the IRA to wage war in Northern Ireland or in Britain were treated as if they were attacks on the Irish state itself. Ironically, it now appears that de Valera, in punishing those do-it-yourself efforts at integrating the national territory, may have been in breach of his own constitution.

In the shadow of these decisions, it is exceedingly dangerous for the British government to continue to operate the

Anglo-Irish Agreement. If it does so, it will be seen by all sections of Irish public opinion - nationalists as well as extremists - as tamely acquiescing in an irredentist claim directed against a part of the United Kingdom. That acquiescence will be interpreted as connivance; yet another signal - the Cyprus analogy of Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland Secretary, in November - that Britain is quietly preparing to pull out.

Assuming that it intends no such abandonment, the British government should take a much firmer line than it has yet done. There is no point in huffing and puffing over extradition, the issue which so far seems to have caused most concern in London. Matters have gone far beyond that. Mrs Thatcher should now talk to Mr Haughey on the following lines:

"I understand you are now under a 'constitutional imperative' to acquire Northern Ireland. Very well. But we are also under a constitutional imperative to maintain the integrity of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. As these imperatives are in conflict, the Anglo-Irish Agreement has become obsolete."

In the short term, so firm a stand would strain Anglo-Irish relations. But in the middle and long terms, it would put those relations on a much healthier footing. At present, all the Irish democratic parties, except Mr Haughey's Fianna Fail, are in favour of amending Articles 2 and 3, in order to terminate the territorial claim. Fianna Fail would come round to amendment once it found that Britain was treating that claim seriously. And it must be taken seriously, now that it has been found to legitimate the IRA's "war" over Northern Ireland.

In the shadow of these decisions, it is exceedingly dangerous for the British government to continue to operate the

vent case and throw the other one down the pan.

I have found the lavatory. I have taken the prawn from my toecap, and pulled the chain.

I have looked into the pan to make sure the prawn has gone. I have made sure it hasn't. It is circling gently on the surface. It did not occur to me that is what prawns do, alive or dead. They are hydrodynamic.

I shall just have to excuse myself and walk out of the room, very carefully. I am doing that now, smiling at people so that they will not look down and wonder why this man is limping. The prawn is a mix of men occupying a cell originally designed for one - to hold my vol-au-vent case.

I should then have to sort of concertina myself downwards,

thereby drawing considerable attention to what I was attempting covertly to do down after. And even if nobody saw what I was going down after, they would unquestionably see what I came up with. I should have a prawn in my hand.

I shall just have to excuse myself and walk out of the room, very carefully. I am doing that now, smiling at people so that they will not look down and wonder why this man is limping. The prawn is a mix of men occupying a cell originally designed for one - to hold my vol-au-vent case.

I should then have to sort of concertina myself downwards,

## Hiding under a canapé of shame



ALAN COREN

You will ask why I do not bend quickly and pluck the prawn off. That is because I have not explained that this is Sunday morning at a house where the rooms, though delightful, are not

quite large enough for the huge number of charming folk who have convened for drinks, so that we are all packed nose to chin, with, moreover, fully occupied hands. I have a glass in



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 01-782 5000

## DRUGS AND REALISM

What is grandly called the international war on drugs has come to London this week with governments vying with each other over the money, weapons and commitment they will put into the fight. In Britain the thunder of struggle may seem distant, echoing from the streets of America and the jungles of Thailand and Peru. Ministers can thus sound as belligerent as they please. Their mind-set is that of generals in some far-off trench war: send more troops, make one more push, victory is round the corner.

Yet a subtle shift in strategy is now detectable from America, where the war is not far off and where defeat stares every city politician in the face. When George Shultz, Milton Friedman, past White House drugs advisers and some 40 per cent of American public opinion are for relaxing criminal sanctions on drug users, then fresh ideas are clearly in the air. Even George Bush, who had seemed ready to make the cocaine war his personal Vietnam, is now turning his attention from the supply to the demand side of this booming market.

The harmfulness of heroin, cocaine and their derivatives is not the issue. An ideal society might wish to be rid of them — though conventional opinion must accept that many users of cocaine see it as no more vulnerable to abuse than alcohol or nicotine, while cannabis is acknowledged to be less harmful or addictive than either. The boundary between what is legal and illegal in narcotics is a matter of past history and culture, which is why many blacks and young people are cynical at their narcotics being banned by those who see drunkenness as virility, permit alcohol advertising and accept sponsorship from tobacco firms.

What is now giving the illegal drugs their international status is not their existence but the social, economic and legal context in which they are traded, in other words: the consequences of their illegality. The vast and ever-growing drugs industry is the modern world's most graphic illustration of economic anarchy at work.

The upsurge in favour of decriminalization in America is due to crude realism. Discouraging consumption through prohibition has failed. Cocaine is so widely used as to be the country's most valuable import. Tens of thousands of Americans work in the industry. Billions of dollars are at stake. Working-class, non-white Americans use illegal narcotics in a wholly unregulated fashion. Because the market is unrestrained, drugs are traded free of duty and therefore offer a cheaper escapism than alcohol. Such huge, illicit profits mean

that 70-80 per cent of all America's urban crime is drug-related.

Few observers of this scene doubt that, somehow, the next decade will see at least part of this international business brought within legal control. Only when supply is taxed and regulated can criminals be removed from the supply chain, and demand tackled through education and taxation. An unwelcome industry which cannot be contained, let alone banned, must be regulated some other way. This is the lesson of the pre-war prohibition of alcohol in America and of off-course betting in Britain.

A step that merits wider debate in Britain is to take cannabis off the banned list. Dealing would be removed from the racketeers and from the corruption of their burgeoning opponents among customs officers, policemen and globetrotting defence consultants. Proceeds from taxing cannabis could be directed into encouraging the young to avoid all forms of narcotics, legal and illegal. Whether or not this led to switching from nicotine to cannabis is immaterial, though cannabis is the less addictive drug. The key is to remove cannabis consumption from criminal culture.

Such a step would not be easy, any more than would any wider decriminalization — as American politicians are finding. We all have a curiously deep aversion to the ways in which other generations and cultures go about relieving life's harsher realities. One man's drunken spree is another's bad trip, the one deserving a sympathetic smile, the other a savage jail sentence.

Politicians have a duty to lead as well as follow, public opinion in matters of social behaviour. But if they lead too far ahead, they will lose touch, lose support and defeat the end in view. Drugs are one such case. The best that might come out of yesterday's conference is an acceptance that more of the old repression simply will not work. The drugs trade is now rotting whole areas of international relations, and rotting the heart of cities in Europe as well as America. It is crime that feeds on itself. Combating it requires not belligerence, but clear thinking, courage and common sense. An increasing number of Americans realize this. Europe's democracies have yet to show the same realism.

Pharmacological escape is a threat to any civilized community — past, present and future. But it is a containable threat. Hysteria jeopardizes that containment and turns threat into reality. Getting a grip on our response to drugs may be as difficult a challenge as getting a grip on drugs themselves.

## AN ARCHAIC LAW

The High Court confirmed the view of the legal textbooks yesterday that the English law of blasphemy does not apply to non-Christian religions: it ruled that a magistrate was right not to allow summonses to be issued against the publishers of *The Satanic Verses*. The three judges correctly resisted pressure from Muslims to use their power to interpret the common law to extend the limits of this offence, saying it was only for Parliament to do so by statute if that was what was called for.

Parliament, if it is to take any action in this anachronistic area of law, would be better advised to repeal it altogether. The concept of an offence to God — which is of the essence of blasphemy — is now beyond the philosophical horizon of most of the English people, even believers, who have long settled for the view that religion is a proper area for fierce debate and controversy.

As a result of yesterday's ruling, it is now established beyond legal doubt that the only doctrine of God protected from assault by law is the doctrine of the Church of England, and the one question remaining is whether there is some residual national interest in preserving that unique exemption. It is very doubtful whether the Church of England itself needs such protection, even if society was still minded to grant it.

The logic of the diversity of faiths — part of the pluralism and multi-culturalism that that Church has itself embraced as a permanent feature of English society — is that in terms of their claims to truth, the law should treat them all equally. There is no special reason why claims to religious truth should be protected, even from scurrilous abuse, when other claims to truth are not. There are many things which Englishmen hold most dear to themselves, not all of them recognizable under the flag of faith.

The refusal of summonses to bring *The*

## SAVE OUR ANTHEM

The National Anthem is criticized more often than the weather and usually for the same reason. For the Church of England to start rewriting it, however, is like the Government attacking the Tamworth manifesto. The moment has come to defend our national song.

The Church's Liturgical Commission has proposed that the bellicose lyrics embedded in two should be abandoned, at least during the Remembrance Day service in November. Instead of invoking God's help to "scare our enemies . . . it wants to revert to a 19th-century version which is more concerned with the brotherhood of man."

As few people outside the Liturgical Commission know more than the words of the first verse anyway, the issue may seem academic. It will come before the General Synod, however, and no doubt will abruptly cease to be so.

The Church's intervention is curiously timed. The Scottish Rugby Union, for example, recently selected a new anthem of its own. Discarding "Scotland the Brave" as far too tame, it opted for the sweet-sounding "Flower of Scotland", which evokes bloodthirsty thoughts of Bannockburn.

This month the Japanese reintroduced their old anthem, banned after the Second World War, into their schools. Moreover, before hastening to condemn, one should recall what the French sing in the Marseillaise: "To arms, ye brave, the avenging sword

*Satanic Verses* affair to court was based on a strict interpretation of the blasphemy law as it now stands, and says nothing about what might have been. The outcome had the judges felt an extension of the common law was appropriate. So before the members of the British Muslim community who brought yesterday's case, draw too many wrong conclusions from their frustration, they must face the fact that such a prosecution, had it been allowed, would surely have failed.

For had this book been directed at the person of Jesus Christ, the degree of unpleasant innuendo implied against Muhammad in *The Satanic Verses* would hardly have led any reasonable jury to regard it as criminal. Most juries would not have known that the text was capable of any offensive meaning, without a great deal of complex and possibly tendentious exegesis from Muslim scholars.

To be blasphemous in law a statement must be extreme, and plain to everyone in its offensive meaning. Yet the real Muslim complaint against Salman Rushdie, which was not put to the court because it was obvious the court would take no notice of it, is not that he wrote what he wrote, but that he wrote as a Muslim.

In the practical world of politics, the reform or abolition of the blasphemy law is a nettle no party will be eager to grasp. If they lack the courage to do so, they will opt to leave the offence of blasphemy to wither on the vine. The most that might be attempted is an adjustment of the public order laws so that insults against someone's religion are taken as seriously as insults against his skin colour in the reckoning of conduct likely to lead to breaches of the peace. While that approach may be worth a second look, it should not be seen as compensation for the repeal of the law against blasphemy. Public order is a different issue.

The logic of the diversity of faiths — part of the pluralism and multi-culturalism that that Church has itself embraced as a permanent feature of English society — is that in terms of their claims to truth, the law should treat them all equally. There is no special reason why claims to religious truth should be protected, even from scurrilous abuse, when other claims to truth are not. There are many things which Englishmen hold most dear to themselves, not all of them recognizable under the flag of faith.

A number of composers have tried to pep up "God Save the Queen" with mixed success. Elgar's is perhaps the best (hardly surprising). Benjamin Britten's the most argued over. Even Beethoven wrote seven variations on it, which were picked by Mr Nigel Lawson for his recent choice of *Desert Island Discs*.

Britain built an empire whistling this tune, which remains a reassuring part of its heritage, like brown boots, chestnut trees and summer rain. Perhaps that is what Mr Lawson had in mind. Critics tamper with it at their peril.

## Seeking the right time for exams

From the President of the Girls' Schools Association

Sir, Ever since last September, considerable anxiety has been expressed from schools in all sectors, much of it in your columns, about the very early start to the GCSE examinations timetable for 1990. It starts in mid-May, two whole weeks before the summer half term, with major subjects like maths, English, French, and history, thus shortening teaching time and wasting the end of the summer term.

Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister for Education and Science, reassured us in writing that she expected changes to be made for 1991. Yet what do we see in the proposed draft timetable? The same indifference to the needs of schools; the same early start (May 13); all the French, history, and physics, half the maths, and four other subjects before half term.

One minor concession only has been made: English Literature has been moved onwards.

Why should the convenience of examination boards override educational priorities? Why should pupils be deprived of that invaluable half term of revision and confidence-building consolidation? Why is this timetable CSE-driven, rather than following the old O-level pattern? And why must we suffer a span of six entire weeks from the beginning of GCSE to the end of A level without an exam-free day?

The boards now all charge an astonishing £15 or more per subject-entry. They should be able to afford enough examiners to cope with a marking time lessened by one week, preferably two. Yours faithfully,

TATIANA MACAIRE, President, Girls' Schools Association, 130 Regent Road, Leicester.

April 2.

## Poll tax disquiet

From Mr Lyndon Harrison, MEP for Cheshire West (Socialist [Labour])

Sir, Now that we have been well and truly lumbered with the poll tax, it might be of interest to know what other European Community states do about raising local taxation. Significantly, not one of our 11 partners possesses any system remotely like the Government's community charge. All employ a combination of taxes where grants from the central exchequer are supplemented by some form of property/land tax. Other forms of taxes include levies on tourism and the fire service (Portugal); alcohol, tobacco and petrol taxes (Italy); and levies on the ownership of dogs and untidy gardens (Spain).

I'm not recommending that we take up all these suggestions. Nevertheless, if Mrs Thatcher had looked over the Channel she might have discovered a fairer system of local taxation based on an individual's ability to pay. But when has this tunnel-visioned Government ever been prepared to learn any lesson from Europe? Yours etc,

LYNDON HARRISON, 2 Stanley Street, Chester, Cheshire.

April 2.

## From Dr B. D. J. Leary

Sir, During all the discussion about the community charge the most vital question does not seem to have been asked: that is, do we want local government at all?

Can there, for instance, be any justification for a different standard of schooling in one part of the country from another or for home help to be free in one place and charged for in another? Do the

## Canterbury succession

From Mr. R. J. M. Tolhurst

Sir, I think that Clifford Longley (article, March 31) will find that the Canterbury succession, there has been in the past at least as much a presumption in favour of London as of York, though, of course, that will not be so in the forthcoming instance.

As to the possibility of the appointment of the Church of Ireland Primate, Dr Robin Eames, to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, it is worth noting that Saint Augustine himself, and several of his successors in the Middle Ages, were not Englishmen. But all had been members of the established church of the Western Christendom of those days. Theodore of Tarsus was a Greek during a period of full communion between Eastern and Western Christendom.

Should Dr Eames be appointed as Archbishop of Canterbury, he would be the first to be both a non-Englishman and a non-member of the established Church of England. Yours faithfully,

R. J. M. TOLHURST, Fiat 52, The Vineyards, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex.

April 4.

## War horses

From Mr Desmond Keogh

Sir, Your report of March 29 on the war horse exhibition, including a photograph of Maremma, prompts me to mention another war horse of fame called Comanche. He was ridden by my grandfather, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Myles W. Keogh, into the battle of the Little Big Horn between the US 7th Cavalry and the Sioux Indians on June 25, 1876. Two days after the battle Comanche was found badly wounded but still alive and the sole living thing to have survived the battle. He remained unbroken but always paraded with the 7th Cavalry until his death in 1891. He is now preserved in the Kansas Museum in Kansas City.

Yours faithfully,  
D. B. KEOUGH,  
Brook Farm,  
Northmoor, Oxfordshire.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Journalists' duty to protect source

From Mr Tom Welsh

Sir, Lord Bridge (Law Report, April 5) says he has not heard of any campaign in the media calling for changes to section 10 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981, which gave a presumptive right to journalists to protect their sources. But why should there have been such a campaign? In section 10 Parliament expressed itself with exceptional clarity. The section said:

No court may require a person to disclose, nor is any person guilty of contempt of court for refusing to disclose, the source of information contained in a publication for which he is responsible, unless it is established to the satisfaction of the court that disclosure is necessary in the interests of justice or national security, or for the prevention of disorder or crime.

The need for such a right became clear after the case in 1980 when Granada was ordered to reveal the identity of its British Steel mole. Journalists were well pleased with this modest shelter.

With four well-aimed blows in nine years the judges have demolished it, largely by their wide interpretations of the grounds on which the protection may be overridden.

The need for such a right became clear after the case in 1980 when Granada was ordered to reveal the identity of its British Steel mole. Journalists were well pleased with this modest shelter.

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First they explained national security. In the Sarah Tisdall case against *The Guardian*, in 1983, the Court of Appeal ordered identification of the source, after explaining that although publication posed no threat there was a risk that a person who leaked one document might leak another, with serious consequences for national security.

With blow number two the Lords virtually destroyed the section by explaining that "necessary" did not mean "essential" — as the dictionary would suggest and as Parliament presumably intended — but somewhere be-

tween indispensable on the one hand and useful or expedient on the other. In 1988, Jeremy Warner of *The Independent* was fined £20,000 and ordered to pay £100,000 costs for refusing to name his source.

With blow number three the Lords explained "prevention of crime". Warner had argued that a journalist had to disclose his source only if identification would allow steps to be taken to prevent the commission of "a particular identifiable future crime"; but the Lords said it was sufficient to show that inspectors were probing into insider dealing and they needed to know Warner's source for the purpose of inquiry.

Now blow number four. The protection may be overridden in the interests of justice and we learn that the late Lord Diplock was wrong when he said this meant "the administration of justice in the course of legal proceedings in a court of law". Apparently it can simply refer to the wish of a private company to discipline a disloyal employee "notwithstanding that no legal proceedings might be necessary to achieve this end".

It is now difficult to think of any occasion when a journalist might wish to protect his source on any important issue and be confident that he will be able to defend himself under section 10. The judges find themselves doing the intricate "balancing exercise" they had never reached the statute book. It is time Parliament put its thinking cap on again, though how it can improve its intentions more clearly it is difficult to know.

Yours faithfully,

TOM WELSH,  
2/3 Broom Close,  
Broughton-in-Furness,  
Cumbria.

April 5.

### Home care costs

From the Chief Executive of the Brendoncare Foundation

Sir, The letter (April 6) from the Director of Age Concern England and others is a timely reminder that the distress experienced by people in residential and nursing care who are dependent on income support will not be alleviated by the token increase of £10 recently announced by the Government. The actual cost of care far exceeds this and an increase of £50 for residential and £100 for nursing care would be a more realistic award.

It is comforting to know that the Government intends to initiate research on the actual cost of care. Previous studies have been both narrowly based, selective and secretive with results that bore no relation to the known facts. It is to be hoped that a wide spread of providers of care will be consulted so that there can be confidence in the results. If the study does show that a substantial increase in funding is required I hope that the report is not conveniently shelved. Yours sincerely,

PETER HAIG,  
Mayfield Farm,  
Englefield,  
Reading, Berkshire.

April 4.

### Spinal cord disease

From President of the Royal College of Radiologists

Sir, Dr J. L. G. Thomson (April 5) mentions the advantages of magnetic resonance imaging used to assess spinal cord disease without the need to insert contrast into the spinal canal. I fully support his view. It is, however, a fact that the United Kingdom does not possess enough of these scanners to meet the present-day needs of the patients who could benefit from their use. At the present time there are less than 25 in the United Kingdom, and there are approximately 67 in San Francisco and over 70 in Los Angeles, apart from other American cities. It would be wrong to suppose that the number of magnetic resonance scanners in the United States indicates how many are needed in the United Kingdom, but it is a fact that we have fewer of these scanners than other medically developed Western countries.

Never once with my UK operations did I ever fail because of lack of innovation. In most cases my British managers and engineers were superior in their creative abilities to their West German and Japanese counterparts. Failure always resulted from the painful but pedestrian fact that the British have a lower capacity for sustained disciplined industry than Germans or Japanese.

This doesn't mean that investment in science, advanced technological development or training doesn't matter, but that without adding the fourth dimension, we will just make more people happy during our gradual but inevitable economic decline.



## COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
April 9: By command of the Queen, the Lord Somerleyton (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport this afternoon upon the departure of The President of Vanuatu and Mr Timakata and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

This morning The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, attended a meeting of the Council of the Save the Children Fund at Mary Datchelor House, 17 Grove

Lane, Camberwell, London. Her Royal Highness was attended by The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke.

### YORK HOUSE

#### ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 9: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant Colonel D. J. R. Small on assuming command of the 6th Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel K. R. Whiteman on relinquishing the appointment.

### Mr S.N. Konsta and Miss K.A. Procter

The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son to Mr and Mrs Demetrios Konsta, of Bristol, and Katie, elder daughter of the late Mr Charles Procter and of Mrs James Nicholas and step-daughter of Mrs James Nicholas, of Herefordshire.

### Mr R.J. Noble and Miss G.E. Baker

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Noble, of Sonning-on-Thames, Berkshire, and Gillian, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alec Baker, of Pinner, Middlesex.

### Mr G.R. Weir and Miss S.E. Palmer

The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Mrs Marion Weir and the late Mr James Weir, of Glasgow, and Rosalyn, daughter of Mrs Diana Rahm and the late Mr Albert Rahm, of Calgary, Canada.

### Marriage

Mr D. Brooks and The Hon Emma Rees-Mogg  
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 7, in Toynebee Hall, London, between David, son of the late Major Robin Brooks and of Mrs Brian Ford, and Emma, daughter of Lord and Lady Rees-Mogg.

### Anniversaries

BIRTHS: James V of Scotland, reigned 1513-42, Linlithgow, 1512; Hugo Grotius, jurist, Delft, 1583; Sir John Pringle, physician, president of the Royal Society 1772, Stichel, Roxburgh, 1707; Samuel Hahnemann, physician, the founder of homoeopathic medicine, Meissen, Germany, 1755; William Hazlitt, Maidstone, 1778; William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, Nottingham, 1829; Joseph Pulitzer, newspaper proprietor, Makon, Hungary, 1847; George William Russell (AE), writer, Lurgan, Co Armagh, 1867; George Arliss, actor, London, 1868.

DEATHS: Alexander Nasmyth, painter, Edinburgh, 1840; Algernon Charles Swinburne, London, 1909; August Lumière, pioneer of motion pictures, Lyons, 1954; Evelyn Waugh, Combe Florey, Somerset, 1966. The Civil Rights Bill passed the United States Senate, 1960.

### Birthdays today

Lord Brookes, 81; Mr Aidan Crawley, former chairman, London Weekend Television, 82; Vice-Admiral Sir Alastair Ewing, 81; Mr Patrick Garland, theatre and film director, 55; Sir Edward Grimaldi, 75; Mr A.M. Henzi, former director, Liverpool Academy of Arts, 58; Miss Gloria Hunniford, broadcaster, 50; Professor Kathleen Major, former principal, St Hilda's College, Oxford, 84; Mr Stan Mellor, racehorse trainer, 53; Mr David Moortoff, sub-legate, 37; Lord Morton of Shuna, 60; Mr Robert Rhodes James, MP, 57; Mr Omar Sharif, actor, 78; Mr Paul Theroux, writer, 49.

### Luncheon

British-American Chamber of Commerce  
The twentieth annual luncheon of the British-American Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday at the Inn on the Park Hotel. The President, Mr Peter M. Felix, presided, and the guest of honour and speaker was Mr. Robert C. Crandall, the Chairman and President of American Airlines. Guests on the head table were: Professor Roland St. John, Chairman of the BACC Advisory Board; The Hon. Michael J. D. Smith, MP; Mr Claude N. Brown, Sir Colm Cawley, President, Royal Canadian Mounted Police; Hon. Senator George F.urey, Minister of Transport, Ottawa; Mr. Edward G. Smith, and Mr. Gary Weston.

### Service dinner

22nd (Cheshire) Regiment Viscount Leverhulme attended a dinner given by past and present officers of the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment at The Duke of York's Barracks, Chester, last night to mark his retirement (July 1) as Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire and his support for the regiment. Brigadier W.K.L. Prosser presided.

### Dinners

104 (Cheshire) Regiment The Users' Committee of the Official Referees' Court held a dinner at the Middle Temple last night to mark the retirement of Judge Lewis Hawser, QC, as Senior Official Referee. Judge Hawser, QC, and Mr Norman Royce were the speakers.

### Gold and Silver Wrever Drawers' Company

Mr Malcolm J. Hollins, Master of the Gold and Silver Wrever Drawers' Company, was presided, assisted by the Warden, at the Master's Dinner held last night at Painters' Hall. Mr Denis Thacker and Assistant J.A. van de Poel also spoke. Among those present were: Sir George Young, MP, Master-General P.W. de la Motte, and the Masters of the Gold and Silver Wrever Drawers' Company.

Athenaeum Rev D.L. Edwards The Very Rev D.L. Edwards was a speaker at a dinner discussion held last night at the Athenaeum. Rabbi Dr D. Cohn-Sherbok presided.



On the towpath, July 1988

## GUY WILLETT

Guy Willett, Crown Court Recorder and barrister on the Western Circuit, died on March 23 after a long illness at the age of 76. He was born on June 10, 1913.

Few lawyers on the Western Circuit were as busy or as celebrated as Guy Willett. Few

had sparked so many "true" stories arising from their activities both in Court and out. His name cropped up in many after-dinner speeches in the Circuit Mess.

Willett was very successful with juries but less so with judges. He had an instinct for points a jury liked, but whose relevance was not always apparent to the Bench. His quick opportunistic wit as he handled a loose ball could get him a case laid out of Court. In other cases his beguiling manner and mournful spaniel eyes won sympathy where none was due. His knowledge of substantive law was sketchy, but his style individualistic, but if a Judge became testy, Willett would make a slip.

Guy Willett was the youngest son of William Willett who invented daylight saving and developed large parts of London, most notably in Chelsea and Hampstead. He did not look back with nostalgia on his days at Marlow, where he depicted as meager in heat and rations and the residue to charity, as her trustees select.

Mr Geoffrey Michael Knocke, of Farnham, Hampshire, company director, left estate valued at £1,211,027 net. He left his estate to relatives.

Mrs Gertrude Clunie Shields, of London SW1, left estate valued at £2,389,809 net.

**Appointments**  
Latest appointments include:

Mr Justice Ian Kennedy has been nominated a judge of the Employment Appeal Tribunal. Miss Claire Miskin is to Chairwoman of the Bar European Group, in succession to Mr Richard Bear. Mr David Vaughan, QC, to be honorary vice-president.

**Today's royal engagements**  
The Princess Royal will address the World Ministerial Summit at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre at 10.45.

Princess Alexandra will mark the restoration of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, and the opening ceremony to mark the restoration of the Royal Hospital at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, at 3.00.

**Lecture**  
Royal Society Mr Samuel Brittan delivered the second Touche Ross Lecture last night at the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacture and Commerce. Sir Jeremy Morse presided.

**Royal Grammar School, Guildford**  
The following scholarship awards have been made by the Royal Grammar School:

At Age 11: King's School: Paul N. Mills; Portland Middle School: Alan Bowkett to be Treasurer; Mr Richard Jarrold to be Vice-Chairman.

**Hertford-Watt**  
The title of professor emeritus has been conferred on Professor A. Roy Halliwell, formerly dean of the faculty of engineering.

The following are to receive honorary degrees:

Professor Peter Bradshaw, aeronautical engineer, Hon FRS; Dr Eric Jones, BBC; Controller of Education, Hon LLD.

Lord Anne Palmer, horticulturalist, Hon DSC; Professor Margaret Turner-Warwick, President of the Royal College of Physicians, Hon DSC.

Mr Michael Foot, MP, Hon LLD; Sir R. Brinsley Ford, formerly Chairman of the National Art Collections Fund, Hon LLB; Dr Halfdan Maher, Secretary General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, Hon LLD.

**Lord Reigate**  
Lord and Lady Reigate regret that owing to Lord Reigate's serious illness, the party arranged for May 1, at the House of Lords is cancelled.

**Reception**  
Canning House Sir Jack Taylor, Chairman of the Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Council, was host at a reception held last night at Canning House in honour of Dr Virgilio Barroso, President of Colombia.

**Athenaeum**  
Rev D.L. Edwards The Very Rev D.L. Edwards was a speaker at a dinner discussion held last night at the Athenaeum. Rabbi Dr D. Cohn-Sherbok presided.

## OBITUARIES

## JAMES MACNABB

James Alexander Macnabb, the last survivor of the Cambridge coxed four which won the final of the Olympic Regatta on the River Seine in 1924, and a former Chief of the Clan Macnabb, died on April 6 at the age of 88. He was born on December 26, 1901.

For some years James Macnabb had been the oldest British oarsmen with an Olympic gold medal.

With his death the Clan Macnabb loses its unique position of being the only Clan with two living Chiefs. In 1954 he was recognised by the Lord Lyon as, de jure, 21st Chief.

But he surrendered his claim to the succession in favour of his uncle, Archibald Corrie Macnab of Macnab, who became, de facto, 22nd Chief. He died without issue in 1970 and was succeeded by James's oldest son, the present Chief.

James Macnabb always took an interest in Clan affairs and was Hon. President of the Clan Society at the time of his death.

Educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, Macnabb was by profession a chartered accountant.

He later became assistant manager with the Peabody Donation Fund; he was then to spend all his working life, apart from a break during the Second World War, in charitable housing.

He was President of the Housing Institute in 1961 and

a former Chairman of the National Federation of Housing Societies. As an administrator of the Peabody Trust, he was awarded the OBE in 1972, retiring as Treasurer of Peabody the following year.

In 1939 he was commissioned in the Royal Artillery. He later served in West Africa and went to India with the 81st West African Division and commanded the 41st Mortar Regiment WAA in Burma in 1944-45.

He was mentioned in dispatches and was demobilised with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

To the sport of rowing he contributed magnificently as a competitor, a coach and as an administrator. His first appearance at Henley Royal Regatta was at Eton in the Ladies' Plate in 1920 when his crew reached the semi-finals.

Two years later his expertise in small boats became evident when he won the two leading fours events at Henley, the Stewards' Cup with Eton Vikings and the Visitors' Cup with Third Trinity.

In 1923 he rowed with Eton Vikings in the Grand Challenge Cup and again he won the Stewards', but this time with the Third Trinity.

In 1924 he rowed in the Boat Race for Cambridge, in the crew which scored the first of 13 consecutive wins. Oxford had been favourites being heavier and more experienced, but Cambridge, rowing

with precision and courage, overcame an early lead by Oxford to win by 4½ lengths in 18 mins 41 secs, the second fastest time recorded during the first century of the race.

At Henley in this same year he won the Silver Goblets (the event for coxed pairs) with Eley, who was also a member of the Third Trinity Four which again won the race.

This four was then selected to represent Britain in the Olympic Regatta just outside Paris.

The four continued its remarkable record by winning the gold medal, beating Canada, Switzerland and France. At the same time Jack Bensford won the single Sculls and the British eight was fourth — a very healthy result for Britain from just five events.

Macnabb made two more appearances at Henley as a competitor and his final tally of five Henley wins from nine events entered must be one of the best on record.

Macnabb made fit and this may have been due to his arrival at the members' dock boat in a Leander dinghy which would come alongside with a precision one would expect from such an expert.

Macnabb always looked fit and this may have been due to his lifelong interest in beagling, a sport in which he remained active into his 80s.

For many years he was a whip with the Farley Hill Beagles.

He is survived by his third wife, Elizabeth, two of his four sons and one daughter.

## LADY KEITH



### LADY KEITH

Lady Nancy "Slim" Keith, a socialite well known for her beauty who split her time between London and America, died aged 73 on April 6 from heart failure in New York. She was born in Salinas, California, in 1916.

The title of her recently completed autobiography *Memories Of A Rich and Imperfect Life*, which is expected to be published later this year, says quite a lot about the life style of Lady Keith. She married three times, twice to noted American film producers and finally in 1962 to the British banker, Kenneth, later Lord, Keith.

Newer members of his Chambers took Silk, but at the time when he might have been appointed he preferred the daily excitement of the busy circuit, often appearing in three courts in different towns on the same day.

His next day's briefs were thrown from the window of the fast train as it went through Woking Station, to be collected by Willett from the platform.

He was appointed Recorder in 1972, but a paralysing stroke shortened his working life. He put up a courageous fight, partially successful, to recover his facilities sufficiently to make a comeback. But it was not to be, and in 1978 he retired to Alderney.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, whom he married in 1945, one son and two daughters.

Though she grew into the type of beauty sought in Hollywood, Nancy Keith never appeared in a film, although she worked briefly as a screenwriter and was long close to the core of Hollywood society.

In 1941 Gary Cooper gave her away at her wedding to director and producer Howard Hawks. In 1946 "Slim" (as she had become known not least

for her long-legged good looks) Hawks was named the best dressed woman of the year by 150 fashion editors; the Duchess of Windsor was runner-up.

Hollywood credited her with finding and promoting Lauren Bacall, who at the time was only a model, whose appearance was not all that different from her's.

The name "Slim", given to the character played by Bacall opposite Humphrey Bogart in Howard Hawks's 1944 film *To Have And To Have Not*, was reportedly inspired by Lady Keith. This was the first film version of the Hemingway novel and was not noted for its fidelity to the original.

She divorced Hawks in 1949 and shortly after married Leland Hayward, the film and theatrical producer.

They were divorced in 1959 and in 1962 she married Lord Keith, from whom she acquired her title.

She divorced him in an undefended suit in 1972. Lady Keith once remarked that 10 years' marriage at a time was enough.

She is survived by one daughter, Kitty Hawks, and a sister, Theodora Andersen.

## Polytechnic news

**Sunderland**  
Dr Anne Wright, deputy rector (academic) at Liverpool Polytechnic, has been appointed Research and Chief Executive of Sunderland Polytechnic in succession to Dr Peter Hart, who retired in August.

**Staffordshire**  
Professor Christine King, of Lancaster Polytechnic, is to be Assistant Director and Dean of the Faculty of Business, Humanities and Social Studies.

**Grants**  
Professor C. Buckle, £72,000 from DfT/London Centre for Biotechnology (yeast glycan); Dr S. McEldowney and Mr B. Knights, £50,000 from Shell Research (microbial biomass and activity in aquifers); Professor N. Gammie, £231,031 from British Library (Information Research Group) at PICT Centre, total funding now £1.25m.

**Newcastle**  
Lord Glenarnon, Chancellor of Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic, is to receive the degree of Honorary Doctor of Letters.

**Central London**  
The Council for National Academic Awards has confirmed an honorary doctorate for the founding father of organic growing, Lawrence Hills, of Ryton near Coventry. A master of science degree is being awarded to Mrs Margaret Backbone, a key figure in West Midlands health service reorganization and training.



## Testing themselves

### CONCERTS

Stephen Pettitt

COE/Holliger  
Barbican Hall

THE Chamber Orchestra of Europe certainly knows how to stimulate its own formidable talents. Within a week it was conducted in two concerts by Roger Norrington and then willingly submitted itself to the equally animated direction of Heinz Holliger for a further brace.

What is more, in the Holliger concerts it called upon the services of Gidon Kremer, whose near-miraculous abilities and lively, generous musical imagination are perfect complements to this young band.

In his first concert, Kremer played Beethoven's Violin Concerto, opting for Alfred Schnittke's controversial cadenzas, which take the music a long way from its native style. But then so do Beethoven's own cadenzas for his First Piano Concerto, which were written much later than the piece itself. I was not at all upset by Schnittke's potted histories of the virtuoso manner.

The most impressive feature of Kremer's art is that he uses his tone as the basis for an interpretation, not as something self-serving. Consequently he was able to breath life into this most elusive of concertos, to make it a spontaneous event — full of bold but well-judged nuances such as the naughtily delayed accents of the finale — rather than the ritual it often is, in even the most illustrious hands.

Schnittke's Third Violin Concerto was Kremer's main contribution to the second concert. Here again there was an almost humbling integrity about the playing; the eloquent, slow ending was despatched nervously despite the hazards of its high tessitura, while the more aggressive passages of the middle movement had all the panache of a master swordsman.

This varied, dramatic concerto, expressively free and disconcertingly moving, also afforded ample opportunity for the COE's wind players to excel (only four string players apart from the soloist are required, and they remain silent until the finale). The performance, of course, was carefully shaped by Holliger.

As an oboist, he is renowned for seeming to play on the edge of his nerves, and a neurotic energy certainly invaded his performance of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony. The COE needed to be at its most alert here, if the risks Holliger took did not always pay off dividends, his approach at least guaranteed that the piece seemed newly exhilarating, if at times too coarse.



John Lill: he prefers a modern grand piano, German rather than American

# Soft-pedalling fame

In these days of media hype and crude commercialization of the arts, it comes as something of a relief to talk to an artist concerned with integrity and spiritual values in music-making. The pianist John Lill has never been one to cultivate a glamorous image, preferring to pursue his career in a dedicated and serious fashion.

How, then, did he respond to the latest promotional techniques of record companies, in which photogenic female cellists drape themselves over couches and violinists sport Aston Villa gear? His answer is tactful: Nigel Kennedy is a "marvellous player", has "great talent"; there's "no need for him to go to all those extremes, but if it gives him pleasure..."

On the other hand Lill, who came to international prominence when he won the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 1970, is encouraged by technical advances in record-making. He loves "the incredible quality of digital recorded sound as compared with the frying of eggs and bacon", especially as the piano is especially vulnerable to wow and flutter.

These improvements are one reason why he is coming round again to the idea of making recordings. He hopes to record all Prokofiev's sonatas later this year, and a new version of the Beethoven concertos next year, this time with Walter Weller and the CBSO.

Of earlier masters, his opinion varies according to the repertoire in question. Horowitz "in certain repertoires" he admires especially, Schnabel he finds "amazing in some ways, very irritating in others". Richter "I find compelling, especially with the Russians and Schumann", while Arrau he prefers as a concert artist rather than in the studio.

He does feel that there are lessons to be

learned from the old instruments. But on the whole "instruments are almost secondary; we have to get behind to the composer's mind, to the original inspiration".

Lill's self-effacing character informs his music-making too. "The ultimate aim of the performer is to disappear. Once you start getting in the way by 'interpreting' with a capital 'I', I think you are on the wrong path. Interfering, more like it. A lot of people teach like that."

He believes strongly in the spiritual powers of music, to the extent that he has "powerful psychic experiences" during concerts, which have convinced him that "we are in good hands". He also likes walking, bird-watching, astronomy, the countryside. More surprising is that he is a keen radio ham, and has even taken an examination in the subject.

Above all else, he believes in playing only music by which he is convinced. On the dangers of indiscriminate enthusiasm he tells a cautionary tale. Many years ago, he was playing, as a personal favour, a new piece by an Australian composer. The music fell down and was put back upside down. He had to make up the last three pages "by producing the most terrible noise I could muster". At the end there was much applause. The composer "rushed up and said he had never heard a performance so spirited, and he thought the ending in particular was the most passionate he had ever heard. To cap it all, the headline in a leading London paper the next day was 'Lill's superb insight'."

● John Lill plays Haydn, Schumann and Beethoven at the Queen Elizabeth Hall tomorrow night.

## Agent or witness of change?

### TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

EVER since Ed Murrow made his celebrated *See It Now* documentary on Senator Joseph McCarthy in the early 1950s, the producers have claimed with varying degrees of confidence and conviction that television has the power to effect radical social or political change. But McCarthy had already done himself irreparable damage at the television army hearings, so it is possible that Murrow was only confirming his public suicide.

In this country, a quarter of a century ago, *Cathy Come Home* was similarly credited with changing public feeling about homeless young mothers, but did it drive or merely clamber aboard a bandwagon that was already rolling?

If television is, or has ever been, that powerful, Sellafield should be closed down by next weekend. Last Thursday's *This Week* report, "The Sins of the Fathers", on the genetic dangers to children from the radiation to which their fathers were exposed, was followed last night by *Cutting Edge* (Channel 4), which also used the recent and devastating Gardner Report to explore the contaminated coast of Cumbria and the links between the nuclear reprocessing plant and the incidence of cancer and leukaemia in the children of its workers.

Sellafield was, of course, once called Windscale and will doubtless have to change its name again if present publicity continues to prove this hostile. Last night Michael Burke, who made the first 1983 film about leukaemia in the area, came up with some alarming new statistics.

As the High Court deals with more and more claims for damages, British Nuclear Fuels has paid out half a million pounds in private settlements for cancer victims. Sellafield has the worst safety record after Chernobyl of any nuclear power plant in the world, and its radioactive discharges are now measurable not only along nearby coastlines but also as far inland as Lancaster, which reports radiation levels five times higher than normal.

Meanwhile, however, the "Come to sunny Sellafield" commercials continue to be shown by an independent television network which thinks cigarettes too dangerous to advertise but nuclear processing plants apparently well worth encouraging. Moreover, these commercials have won awards for restoring public confidence in the plant. When asked why they still made no mention of the fact that the Ravensglass Estuary will be contaminated for many years to come, the Sellafield man replied that it was "all a question of emphasis", which deserves to live alongside Mandy Rice-Davies's "Well he would, wouldn't he?" in the annals of classic one-liners.

## Disturbing comparisons give ammunition to lobbyists

Arts Correspondent Simon Tait reports on the Policy Studies Institute's international league table of public arts funding

The United Kingdom is lagging behind the other cultural centres of the West in its funding commitment, according to *Cultural Trends* Issue 5, a new survey by the Policy Studies Institute which is published today. And it is in the local rather than national arena that the race against other countries is being lost.

Using the latest figures available (1987), the PSI finds that West Germany, France, Holland, Sweden and Canada are all ahead of the UK in their per capita funding of the arts and museums. Of the seven countries surveyed, the UK is ahead only of the United States, where the arts are traditionally the province of corporate sponsorship and private patronage.

For the first time, *Cultural Trends* provides statistical ammunition to support the long-standing grievances of arts lobbyists.

"We always knew we were behind places like France and Germany, and said so," says Graham Hitchen of the National Cam-

paign for the Arts. "But the argument was pretty rhetorical, because there was nothing but some vague figures from the early 1980s to back it up."

The PSI found that our central and local purses contributed £9.85 a head. Canada, next up the list, spends almost twice that (£17.40) and Sweden nearly three times as much, at £27.80 per capita. However, the United States, the member of the seven with the largest population (four times the size of the next largest, Germany) spends just £2 per citizen on public arts.

But the report, compiled by Andrew Feist and Robert Hutchinson, adds a rider to the use of head accounting, the customary way of making comparisons. "Per capita figures have drawbacks at the national level. Much of the

debate about public funding of the arts in the UK over the last decade has centred on the regional imbalances within the UK.

"What can appear as high overall per capita spending levels may only reflect high levels of expenditure within a nation's capital and a more impoverished state of affairs elsewhere. The national per capita figures artificially iron out these imbalances."

So Feist and Hutchinson have looked at the figures from other angles: these look marginally better. Our 1987 arts expenditure of £57 million was ahead of everyone in the set except Germany and France, and in purely central government spending per head we are fourth with £5.3m — but after Sweden, The Netherlands and Canada. As a percentage of gross

national product and in local and regional government expenditure per head we are still sixth out of seven. However, as a percentage of public expenditure we marginally improve, to fifth.

"What comes as a surprise is the lack of spending through local authorities," says the NAC's Hitchen. "We have tended to centralize while the big spenders, Germany and France, have diversified through the regions and made it much more part of the national policy to foster local government patronage."

All is destined to change, of course, following the decisions that the Arts Minister, Richard Luce, has made in the light of the Wilberg Report. Funds will be devolved from the Arts Council to regional arts boards.

Hitchen maintains that "France

and Germany have their increases firmly linked with inflation, in some cases kept ahead of it. The lobbyists will be using these figures to push for a more positive approach from both central and local government, but particularly for support from local government."

Last week the Arts Council's departing secretary-general, Luke Ritner, made an impassioned plea to the 20 charge-capped authorities not to take the traditional way out of their difficulties by cutting their arts budgets.

One may expect that the new PSI ammunition is going to be used by the arts brigades to fire at central government, not the councils — to make it possible, even statutory, for towns and counties to fall in line with the burghers of Germany and France.

● *Cultural Trends* Issue 5 is available from the Policy Studies Institute (01-387 2171), £9.95.

## Prosthetics take precedence over aesthetics

### THEATRE

Diane Hill

Cyrano de Bergerac

Marigny, Paris

THIS Paris revival of Edmund Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* at the Marigny is like the leading man's nose: overblown. It is also extravagant and vulgar. Under epic theatre director Robert Hossein, the thwarted love-life and poignant death of the owner of the most famous olfactory organ in the French classical repertoire is clumsily moulded into a rowdy, rabble-rouser of a production, which shouts down the quieter moments of the poetic text and buckles the unashamedly romantic scenario within an excess of out-moded swash.

The best thing about the show is its star, cinema deity Jean-Paul Belmondo. Two seasons ago, Belmondo made a triumphal stage comeback, as Kean in Sartre's play of the same name, after an absence of 27 years. Since then he has carefully conserved his five-performance rarity value. For this second top billing he again goes for a role guaranteed to attract audiences willing to pay prices on a par with those for a night out at the Opéra de la Bastille. He does not short-change them.

Decidedly more macho and a



Maturely macho: Jean-Paul Belmondo as Cyrano de Bergerac dash more mature than other recent French Cyrano's (notably Jacques Weber in Jérôme Savary's award-winning 1983 production), Belmondo pleasingly combines an earthy physique with a touching spiritual humility. He copes with "the nose" with commendable panache.

Contemporary paintings of the poet-philosopher Cyrano de Bergerac — on whose life the play is loosely based — show his nose to have been Roman rather than outrageous. Undaunted by his 30

books and crannies of Pierre Simonini's singularly uninspired sets, which while flown in and out with style, crowd the stage with a gratuitous show of big-budget trimmings. Sylvie Foulet's ugly, cumbersome costumes do nothing to alleviate the feeling of high-density theatre.

Short of space, Hossein finds an outlet for his penchant for the excessive through the vocal cords. But chanting chunks of the text in the manner of a team of American cheerleaders reduces its dramatic impact by as much as it raises the decibels. The general ambience is of a Fifties' Broadway production of *The Three Musketeers*, and the acting style is reminiscent of early Errol Flynn. All is at odds with the confines of a conventional acting space.

In the closing moments of the last act, when Roxane (Beatrice Agenin) discovers too late that the aged, impoverished, dying Cyrano is the writer of the letters that won her heart, are there glimpses of the poetic beauty and the heady potency of a love story that for nigh on a century has retained its ability to bring a lump to the most unsentimental of throats.

Few can match Hossein when it

comes to filling a sports stadium with free-range theatrical spectacle. Under a proscenium arch, his talents are visibly squeezed. Much of the time the 40-strong cast roosts unnaturally in the

by financial insecurity, lead very mundane lives. "We are not all eccentric, extrovert and sexually promiscuous. It just appears that we've more opportunities on stage."

But the spectre of unemployment waits in the wings, silent and ever-present, ready to scythe the actors as they take their exits. Most are forced to take temporary jobs.

The problem is that becoming engaged in full-time employment prevents them from being available for acting work. On the other hand, if they rely on social security between jobs, they may have to face the audience of a government Restart panel. Restart aims to direct unemployed actors towards retraining for alternative jobs.

That can lead to bizarre moments. William Maxwell, whose credits include the RSC's *Nicholas Nickleby* and episodes of *Brookside*, was given a Restart interview while out of work. "I was actually

able to escape the ruling, as long as they can certify that they have been self-employed (schedule D tax status) for the last three months a year.

Now there is an additional problem. This month sees a change in the tax status of actors working in the theatre. Many new actors will be unable to claim any rebate for their yearly expenditure on essential items such as fares to auditions, and being professionally photographed. With two thirds of the profession earning less than £3,000, every penny counts. Established working actors may be able to escape the ruling, as long as they can certify that they have been self-employed (schedule D tax status) for the last three years.

A characteristic of the acting profession is that it offers short-term contract work. An actress who moves her audience to tears as Desdemona on the last night of *Othello* finds less sympathy in signing on the dole on Monday morning. Acting becomes a war of attrition: frenzied bouts of activity in the adenalin of rehearsal and performance, then protracted periods of boredom and waste when unemployed. Performers' moods swing from elevation to emanation.

"You constantly have to return to voice and movement classes, to maintain your confidence," says actress Suzanne Church, who has numerous West End credits.

"People think that actors watch TV and eat chocolates when we are not working, but we continually keep up an energy level."

"Money can be a problem," says Judy Wilson, who acted with the National Theatre company under Laurence Olivier. "I'm lucky in always knowing what I'm doing next, but people assume we are rich. All that actors earn lots of money. There's always tremendous insecurity." The peripatetic lifestyle, and the exiguous earnings of theatre as compared with television, contribute to this.

Additionally, performers often pay more for car insurance — their vocation alone is a liability, as if they all conform to the stereotype of a drunken barnstormer.

Bill Thomas, who appeared in *Howard's Way* and *Minder*, belongs to an agency called Actorum, run exclusively by thespians. He rejects the stock image of the temperate and dissolute performer, and maintains that working actors, though often plagued

## An outrageously good time to be had by all

### Tony Patrick

Nun'sense  
The Rose

THIS, said to be the only musical on the London Fringe at present, is a sparky, high-energy production. Dan Goggin's peculiar whimsy, seen at the Fortune Theatre in 1987, is the sort of thing an immature Tom Lehrer

might have written for *Mad Magazine*. Involving a preposterous order of nuns, beset by mass-poisoning and barely-suppressed showbiz ambitions, it is said to have developed from a range of greeting-cards.

It says much for the commitment and vitality of the Sistermatic Company, under the direction of Kerrin Roberts, that this revival is so entertaining and winning over its 90 minutes without interval.

Special praise must go to keyboard player Ana Sanderson, whose synthesized piano, organ and harpsichord provide always-secure underpinning to the songs.

Of the wacky singing sisters themselves, Anna Lockett has perhaps the strongest voice, as Sister Mary Ann, but each of them seizes her chance to make an impact, whether as a ballet-dancing novice (Nikki Fuljumes), clowning dogsboddy (Clare Le May), ambitious novice-mistress

(Ruth James), or Mother Superior falling spectacularly from grace (Jennifer Lister).

The often tasteless jokes may shock Roman Catholics and will surely mystify the irreligious; the plot is unashamedly absurd. The energy and full-out commitment of the performers make such considerations almost irrelevant, as they defy you not to enjoy yourself. Well worth the journey to this pub-theatre in Fulham Road.

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## NEW YORK FASHION by Liz Smith

# Cast for a lean, clean decade

It's sassy, it's simple New York chic as the leaders of American fashion show off the pared-down look favoured by the glitterati

**B**rian de Palma, the Hollywood director, minimised his recent visit to Manhattan to audit real-life socialites for walk-on parts in Warner Brothers' film version of Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities*. If he had been at the fashion shows in New York last week he could have watched them in action and saved himself the cost of the limousines sent to whisk the clowns from Le Cirque, Mortimer's and other Upper East Side haunts for the ride downtown to TriBeCa to read their lines.

The customer "on parade" is a significant part of American fashion. The line-up of social celebrities and fashion professionals in the front rows at every show reflects the reality that American designers alone among their international counterparts continually face, that of the fashion needs of the affluent women who dress to work and play.

Bill Blass, the designer, supplies his socialite fans such as Nancy Kissinger and Judy Peabody with sumptuous, four-star "sportswear". None of them care if they all show up at a restaurant dressed in identical drop-dead simplicity, wearing the same luxurious flannel-grey evening sweater with satin trousers, and they will probably all be seen next season in Blass's latest strapless tweed short dresses with a cashmere sweater knotted over the shoulders. Six of them compensated each other at last week's Blass show for turning out in identical red and black tartan suits.

Oscar de la Renta, who recently married one of his customers, Annette Reed, wowed his women with long, lean tunics to slip over short skirts and shimmering chiffon- or beaded silk lame, and brocade ensembles. His former assistant, Carolyn Roehm, who succeeded him as president of the CFDA (Council of Fashion Designers of America) is married to Henry Kravis, New York's leverage buyout specialist, and stars with him in Manhattan's latest best-seller, *Barbarians at the Gate*, the book which upstages Wolfe's novel by being a *real-life* saga about the recent dismantling of the Nabisco empire.

Manhattan's fast-moving, sassy style extends to the pared-down clothes that all chic New Yorkers like to wear. In addressing their needs, America's top designers have succeeded in redefining the classics for a style that looks set to become the look of the 1990s. Simplicity is smart. Simplicity looks young and hip. Simplicity, however, does not come cheap.

A simple wide-necked tunic that has a way of sliding seductively off one shoulder has more allure when it comes in silky cashmere or pale suede. A blazer, cunningly simple in cut, must come in the heaviest crepe, matte jersey or all-over sequins to exude the essential aura of understated luxury. Either of the above pieces would come in the £700-plus range. In New York, simplicity sells, whatever the price.

Amanda Verdun, buyer for Harvey Nichols' designer floor, believes that New York designers offer women something different from that provided by their European peers. "American clothes look wonderfully pared-down and relaxed. They are modern," she says. Smart London shops like Baynes and A La Mode are equally committed to the laid-back transatlantic style.

With his proud New Jersey mother sitting in the front row, Isaac Mizrahi emerged as leader of New York's exciting new talents. Installed in expansive new studios in SoHo, Mizrahi, CFDA's Designer of the Year, launched his first menswear line alongside the triple-layered short coats in sheer-

bert shades; the bow-tied jackets, lode tunics and dipping fringed poncho skirts of his new collection. He says ballerinas inspired his glamorous spaghetti-strapped ballerina dresses.

Michael Kors, whose minimalist chic sells well over here, tightens his grip on the European market by adding a swimwear line for the British company Trufo, to his cashmere collection for Lyle & Scott, as well as menswear and shoes. Blue-eyed, with a mop of blond curls, Kors is an articulate exponent of the simple look in luxurious beige and navy cashmere, gauze, sequins or silk. "I don't think you need a lot of clothes," he says. "The more you own, the more difficult it is. When I design, I strive for that perfect jacket, the perfect pants."

"Women used to shop for their amusement. Feeling blue? Let's buy a new dress. Well, that's all changed," he says.

Donna Karan, currently Seventh Avenue's international star, will arrive in London on May 9 to celebrate her successful new shop in Harvey Nichols. Karan has always applied herself to the basics of what working women, like herself, need to wear. This season her scoop-necked bodysuits, roomy ribbed tunic sweaters, wrap skirts and collarless double-face alpaca coats in luxurious neutrals such as grey, beige and tortoise-shell brown come muffled up with a detachable glamorous deep cowl or sequinned scarf.

The cat of Calvin Klein's narrow jackets is undoubtedly beautiful. The cloth is certainly luxurious from the deep taupe and loden green gabardine and covert, boho's checks and Glen plaid of his daytime equestrian style to the matte gold sequins and re-embroidered lace of his simple evening dresses. But, by reworking such past successes, he risks boring his fashionably tapered riding pants off us all.

**R**alph Lauren's offerings were greeted enthusiastically by his audience, from the opening numbers of rugged northwest blanket coats, patchwork plaid jackets and khaki trousers worn with wedges to the simple, willowy, long black dress that bared the shoulders of Lauren's current favourite model, Kim Nye. The tall, rangy 28-year-old with the blinding blonde bob stood to have every outfit in his new collection tried on her first. "Everything we put on her looked fantastic," Lauren said. "She has a loose energy, a look that is wonderfully rich and elegant."

Known for his thoroughbred sporty style, Lauren succeeds in making familiar classics look fresh and new. His success this spring with military tunics has been followed up with khaki battle dress and military greatcoats, glistening with brass buttons, slung about with Sam Browne belts and worn with a Monty beret.

Bob Mackie, best known as the creator of Cher's showstopping gowns, may be based on Seventh Avenue these days, but he never forgets his raunchy Hollywood roots. This season he costumed a rip-roaring Western with feathered head-dresses and beaded suede ponchos, taking in Amish country with "patchwork" quilt" jersey dresses and Pilgrim hats.

Geoffrey Beene is a visionary who pioneered the bodysuit and tunic dress decades ago. He constantly evolves his craft, engineering intricately-seamed, high-waisted and narrow-sleeved dresses and cropped jackets that define today's contemporary ease. His flared trumpet dresses in jersey for day, with diagonally-wrapped stitched leather straps and in flowered brocade and lame for evening got the only standing ovation of the week.



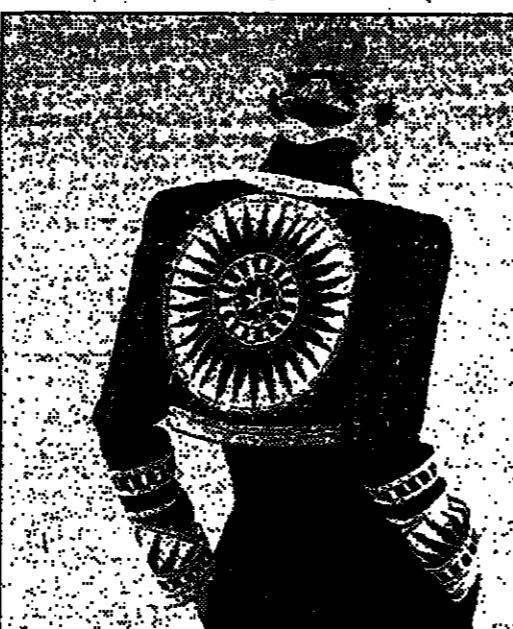
RALPH LAUREN

Khaki battledress with burgundy velvet epaulettes and cream trousers



DONNA KARAN

Grey alpaca detachable cowl, tie-front jacket and jersey unitard



BOB MACKIE

Sunburst medallion embroidered on black jacket



CALVIN KLEIN

Boohoo's check jacket and wrap skirt



MICHAEL KORS

Charcoal camel-hair coat over blazer



BILL BLASS

Strapless trompe l'oeil dress in tweed



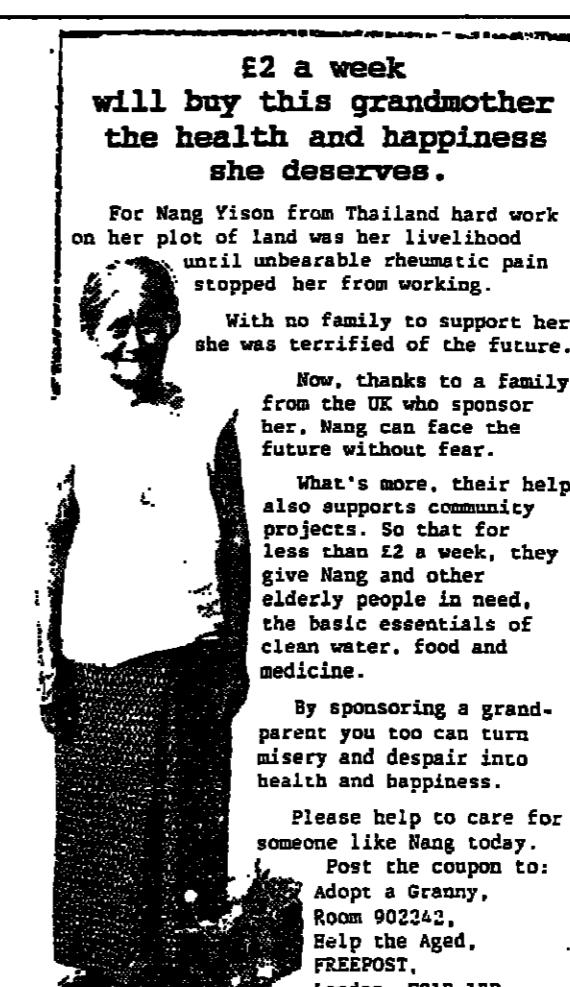
ISAAC MIZRAHI

Grey cashmere cable sweater with brocade skirt



GEOFFREY BEENE

High-waisted slip dress in spotted net and lace

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Help the Aged

## DV rules

THE memorial service for Diana Vreeland held last November in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's medieval-sculpture hall, with a white-robed choir singing Faure's *Sainte-Sacrament*, turned out to have been merely the warm-up to the fashion world's real tribute to its legendary *grande dame*.

On April 18, they all gather again at Sotheby's, New York, for cocktails and "The Art of Fashion", an auction of jewellery.

clothes and photographs donated by international designers, fashion illustrators and photographers.

The gala, under the honorary chairmanship of the fashion artist Eric, will launch the Diana Vreeland Fund for exhibitions at the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum, where DV, as she was known, was fashion director from 1972 following her decade as editor of *Vogue*.

The following day the contents of her stylishly cluttered Park Avenue apartment, decorated in deep shades of red, go under the hammer. Although her celebrated collection of jewels has already been sold, netting \$179,800 at Sotheby's in October 1987, fashion enthusiasts will find rich pickings among the Scottish silver snuff boxes displayed on a Victorian butler's tray, the collection of fashion drawings, and the monogrammed set of Virtuoso luggage.



Manhattan lit up: knitwear by Marc Jacobs for Perry Ellis

## In memoriam

A SOMBRE phenomenon of New York fashion that was increasingly evident during the week of shows was the number of "ghost" collections created in the name of designers who have recently died — seven in the last few years — many of them victims of Aids, leaving only a name for another designer to carry on.

Memorial retrospective shows were staged last week for Willi Smith, an international star who died of Aids in 1987, aged 39, and Mississippi-born Patrick Kelly, another black designer, the first American to become a member of Paris fashion's select club, the Chambre Syndicale. Kelly died of bone marrow disease on New Year's Day, aged 55.

The Halston collection shown in his Olympic Tower studio last week was in the spirit alone of the first superstar designer, who died of Aids at 57 in San Francisco a

fortnight ago. Reworking some unfinished sketches, Virginia Estrada stepped in to succeed her brother, Angel Estrada, who died of Aids last September, aged 31. Martin Price ghosted a much-praised collection shown last week in the name of his friend, Giorgio di Sant'Angelo, who died of lung cancer last August, aged 55. Michael McCollum, formerly a menswear designer, has taken over the Isaia line for his "old friend from Cincinnati", Isaia Rankin, who died of Aids last July.

It was the death of the designer Perry Ellis at the peak of his international success in 1986 that brought the full impact of Aids home to the fashion industry. In fact, Marc Jacobs, the young designer who is Ellis's latest design successor, hit his stride last week with his third collection for Ellis's label, continuing the house tradition for beautiful knitwear, notably the sweater shown here, fit up like the Manhattan skyline.

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## PREVIEW

TODAY Theatre &amp; Cabaret

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The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

## THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

## NEW IN LONDON

**THE AWAKENING** Con O'Neill and Linda Bassett in new Julian Garner play set on a Norwegian island where a young farm worker finds love before the past catches up with him. Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, NW3 (01-722 9301). Underground: Swiss Cottage. Preview from Thurs, 8pm. Opens April 19, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat 4pm. Mon 25, Tues-Fri and Sat mat 2pm. Sat eve 8pm.

**KING**: Opening at last, after weeks of public squabbles, the life of Martin Luther King set to music and billed as a "musical testimony"; with Simon Estes, Cynthia Hayman. Piccadilly, Dernier Street, W1 (01-867 1118). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Now previewing, 7.45pm, mat Sat 3pm (no perf April 16). Opens April 18, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Tues and Sat 3pm. Preview £10.50-£22, from April 18, £12.50-£22.

**LOOK, LOOK**: Stephen Fry, Margaret Courtenay, Robin Bailey in Michael Frayn play about an audience, so maybe the reverse of *Noises Off*, though presumably still funny. Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (01-636 6404). Underground: Covent Garden. Preview Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat 8.30pm. Opens April 17, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.30pm, mat Wed 8pm, Sat 8pm. Preview £24-£13.50, from April 17, 25.50-£16.50.

**ME AND MY FRIEND**: Comic and sad four-hander, winner of the Verve Bargello Award, follows two couples learning to make sense of the world after life in a mental hospital. Soho Poly, 16 Riding House Street, W1 (01-636 9050). Underground: Oxford Circus. Preview tomorrow 8pm. Opens Thurs 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm (no perf April 16). Preview and Mons £5, even £5.50, until May 12.

**NOT FADE AWAY**: Miriam Karlin plays an old thing on the run teaming up with a boss guitar (Paul Berlin) in a musical version of Dame Keeth's television play, *Waterloo Sunset*. Theatr Royal, Gerry Rafferty Square, E18 (01-534 0310). Underground: Stratford. Preview from Thurs, 8pm. Opens April 18, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm, mat May 1 and 8, 2pm. Preview 24, then the play, the other being Jonathan Miller's production at the Old Vic in which Denis Quilley played the

## On the very best authority

ZOE DOMINIC



John Neville returns to the London stage this week to play Sir Peter Teazle in Sheridan's *The School for Scandal* at the National Theatre. Apart from four performances of *Happy Days* in Canada, he has not worked here for 20 years. Canada has been his home, acting, directing and various times artistic director of theatres at Edmonton, Halifax and finally Stratford Ontario, where his four-year tenure successfully clawed the company out of the red. Most recently he has been seen on screen as the insouciant hero of the *Adventures of Baron Munchausen*. This will be the National's second go at the play, the other being Jonathan Miller's production at the Old Vic in which Denis Quilley played the

7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mat Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £7-£17.50, mats £5-£13.

**MISS SAIGON**: Great new musical; thrillingly staged. This year's Olivier Award winner for "Best Actor" Jonathan Pryce, and "Best Actress" Lesley-Anne. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, WC2 (01-866 6108). Underground: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.30pm, mat Wed 8pm and Sat 3.45pm, mat Fri, Sat 8pm, £7-£15.

**RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET**: Cult hit crams *The Tempest*, sci-fi and rock 'n' roll into a crazy show. Voted "Musical of the Year" at the Univer Awards ceremony this year. Cambridge Theatre, Seven Dials, WC2 (01-379 5299). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Thurs 8-10.30pm, Fri, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Fri, Sat 8pm, £7-£15.

**LONG RUNNERS**: Aspects of Love of Love's Theatre (01-839 55721). Peter New London Theatre (01-405 0072) ... Les Liaisons Dangerous: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) ... Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-434 7913) ... Les Misérables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) ... The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) ... Run for Your Wife: Whitehall Theatre (01-867 1118) ... Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8555).

## OUTSIDE LONDON

**BATH**: *Totally Fozed*. Described as classic farce with a difference, verbal tricks plus physical antics, which sounds like the same old formula: Miss Piggy, Chris Barris plays the leads. Theatre Royal, Sawclose (0225 448944). Today, tomorrow, 7.30pm. Thurs-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £5-£7.30pm, 27-21.60.

**MARYA**: Sylvester Le Touzel and Julie Legend in strongly cast revival of Isaac Babel's drama set in 1920 Petrograd where survivors of the region plan survival tactics. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7616). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Fri

7.30pm, Sat 8pm, 20. Ends Saturday.

**MAN OF THE MOMENT**: Michael Gambon, this year's Olivier Award winner for "Best Comedy Performance", and Peter Bowles, both superb: comedy good meets evil in the Costa del Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3367). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Wed 5.30pm and Sat 5-7.30pm, 27-21.60.

**BEING BORN**: Sylvester Le Touzel and Julie Legend in strongly cast revival of Isaac Babel's drama set in 1920 Petrograd where survivors of the region plan survival tactics. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7616). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Fri

7.30pm, Sat 8pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £7-£17.50, mats £5-£13.

**MISS SAIGON**: Great new musical; thrillingly staged. This year's Olivier Award winner for "Best Actor" Jonathan Pryce, and "Best Actress" Lesley-Anne. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, WC2 (01-866 6108). Underground: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.30pm, mat Wed 8pm and Sat 3.45pm, £7-£15.

**HARROGATE: The Odd Couple**: Amanda Prior and Kate Adshen in the Neil Simon hit, rewritten in the Eighties to give the leading roles to women and herself yet another hit. Harrogate Theatre, Oxford Street (0423 502116). Opens tomorrow 7.45pm, then Tues-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, £7-22.50.

**RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET**: Cult hit crams *The Tempest*, sci-fi and rock 'n' roll into a crazy show. Voted "Musical of the Year" at the Univer Awards ceremony this year. Cambridge Theatre, Seven Dials, WC2 (01-379 5299). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Thurs 8-10.30pm, Fri, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Fri, Sat 8pm, £7-£15.

**LONG RUNNERS**: Aspects of Love of Love's Theatre (01-839 55721) ... Les Liaisons Dangerous: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) ... Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-434 7913) ... Les Misérables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) ... The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) ... Run for Your Wife: Whitehall Theatre (01-867 1118) ... Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8555).

## OUTSIDE LONDON

**BATH**: *Totally Fozed*. Described as classic farce with a difference, verbal tricks plus physical antics, which sounds like the same old formula: Miss Piggy, Chris Barris plays the leads. Theatre Royal, Sawclose (0225 448944). Today, tomorrow, 7.30pm. Thurs-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £5-£7.30pm, 27-21.60.

**MARYA**: Sylvester Le Touzel and Julie Legend in strongly cast revival of Isaac Babel's drama set in 1920 Petrograd where survivors of the region plan survival tactics. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7616). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Fri

7.30pm, Sat 8pm, 20. Ends Saturday.

**MAN OF THE MOMENT**: Michael Gambon, this year's Olivier Award winner for "Best Comedy Performance", and Peter Bowles, both superb: comedy good meets evil in the Costa del Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3367). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Wed 5.30pm and Sat 5-7.30pm, 27-21.60.

**BEING BORN**: Sylvester Le Touzel and Julie Legend in strongly cast revival of Isaac Babel's drama set in 1920 Petrograd where survivors of the region plan survival tactics. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7616). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Fri

7.30pm, Sat 8pm, 20. Ends Saturday.

**WORD-WATCHING**: Answers from page 22

## ALMATHREA

(a) The goat that suckled the infant Zeus in Crete, or (the rationalist explanation) a synaph (or princess) who fed Zeus with the milk of the goat. Zeus gave her the horns of the goat, which was a sort of Aladdin's lamp, known in Latin as the *coenocope*.

**MARGITES**: (c) A famous lost poem, having a marge or fool for its hero. Aristotle said Homer wrote it, and that it bore the relation to comedy that the Iliad and Odyssey bore to tragedy. It mixed iambics with hexameters.

**SCOLION**: (a) An early type of Greek drama, set at banquets or wine-drinking parties. Terpsichore originated these, and they were composed by Alcaeus and Pindar.

**HYPALLAGE**: (a) Interchange, or variation of the usual grammatical construction for effect, e.g. *Virgil dare classibus Astarte* to give the south winds to the stars instead of stare *classis Astarte*.

**SOLUTION TO NO 2148**

**ACROSS**: 1 Israeli force member (5,3,3) 9 Prayerbook directions (7) 10 Look-see (5) 11 Choices (3) 13 Cosy tobacco (4) 16 Store (4) 17 Counting frame (6) 20 Mint (4) 21 Travelling pot-meader (6) 22 TV award (4) 23 Towards (4) 25 Weep (3) 28 Buzz, hum (5) 29 Break word (7) 36 Harness (11) 37 DOWN: 2 Zodiac scales sign (5) 3 Chest sign (4) 4 As well (4) 5 Dash (4) 6 Intoxicating drink (7) 7 Place for new start (5,6) 19 Ridiculing satire (7) 30 HARMLESS (11)

**SOLUTION TO NO 2148**

ACROSS: 1 Describe 5 Firm 9 Vertigo 10 Knock 11 Desperation

13 Felt 17 Costs 17 Richard Hausey 21 Offer 22 Bacteria 23 Elle 24 Dead cert

DOWN: 1 Dived 2 Sorts 3 Rain god 4 Biodegradable

5 Okra 12 Exc 13 Paragon 14 Tacitful

6 Ivories 7 Makings

8 Vineyard 3 24 Beersheba desert (5)

24 Land slave (4)

25 Mild "Camembert" (4)

27 Responsibility (4)

28 Vines 29 Vineyard (3)

30 Land slave (4)

31 Land slave (4)

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# A life on the open road

Peter Waymark

A former soldier and game warden, Stephen Pern is a natural wayfarer whose life consists of a sustained rhapsody to the notion of living in a house and eating three meals a day. He likes to be on the move and as far away as possible from crowds and cities. In the course of a 1,600 mile walk along the mountains of Japan for a new documentary series *Compass* (ITV, 10.35pm), he remarks: "I travel because I am afraid of people." He prefers to walk alone and admits that he

Stephen Pern plays the *koto*, a Japanese harp (ITV, 10.35pm)

even feels self-conscious in the presence of the film crew. Pern's deliberate unpreparedness for the trek, preferring to tackle the country as a total stranger, gives the programme an appealingly unhearsed flavour and, as is often the case with media journeys, this one tells as much about the traveller as his terrain.

"The Army is happy to expect that you put your career first and family second," says David, a signals officer, who has seen his son for just six days in the course of a year. Hardly a recruiting film, *Army Lives* (BBC2, 7.30pm) this week explores the theme of separation, as the husbands go on tour in Northern Ireland leaving wives and children in West Germany. Long absences are hardly the recipe for happy family life and some marriages break up. That many more survive is a considerable tribute to the resilience of both partners, although it is suggested that the greatest sufferers are the children.

• The Apricot computer company was one of the success stories of the early 1980s, making Roger Foster, its founder, into a millionaire. Then came a devastating crash. Foster still drives his Rolls, but the company is fighting for survival against the giant multinationals. Enter *Breakthrough* (BBC2, 9.50pm) and Sir John Harvey-Jones, oozing charm and colourful phrases ("that loss must have shaken the hell out of you") and moving ruthlessly to the unpalatable truth that Foster and his team need to think the unthinkable. It is another very watchable contribution to an excellent series.

• Like new breakfast cereals, new gameshows tend to be variations of old ones. Despite its wacky set and choice of alternative comedienne Helen Atkinson-Wood as host, *Style Trial* (BBC2, 7.00pm) has more than a whiff of *What's My Line* and *Through the Keyhole* as "celebrity" panelists are invited to identify the occupations and lifestyles of ordinary people from one-minute films.

## RADIO 1

FM Stereo and new News on the half-hour from 2.30am to 4.30am, then at 7.30, 8.30 and 10.00pm. 5.00am Jackie Brambles 6.30 Simon Mayo 9.30 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in Afternoon 5.00 7.00 10.00 The Complete Collins: Mike Read talks to Phil Collins about his musical career 6.30 John Peel 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am Richard Skinner

## RADIO 2

FM Stereo News on the hour. Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 4.00am Steve Madden 6.30 Chris Stuart 7.30 Derek Jameson 8.30 Glynne Williams 9.30 Jimmy Young 10.30 Simon David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Hunniford 4.00 Tony Bennett 5.05 John Durn 7.00 Time Cycle 7.30 The Radio Orchestra Show 9.00 Michael Feinstein (new series) 10.00 Ken Bruce 11.00 News Jazzy 12.00-1.00 Golden Years 1.00-4.00 Nightride

## WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST. 5.00am World News 5.00-24 Hours News Summary 5.30 London: Metric 5.55 Weather 5.55 Newsbeat 5.55 5.55 Simon Mayo 9.30 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in Afternoon 5.00 7.00 10.00 The Complete Collins: Mike Read talks to Phil Collins about his musical career 6.30 John Peel 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am Richard Skinner

6.00 *Ceefax*  
6.25 Mother Teresa with a prayer in thanksgiving for music and song  
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Meyer. Includes regular news headlines, business reports, sports summaries, regional news, weather and travel information. Paul Callan reviews the morning's newspapers 8.00 Regional news and weather  
9.00 News and weather followed by *Easter Children's* BBC, introduced by Simon Parnell and Andi Peters, starting with *Heathcote* with Cats and Co. Cartoon adventures of a an alley cat (r) 9.25 *Why Don't You...?* Adventure drama series 9.45 *Paddington Peeps*

10.00 News and weather followed by *Turnabout* (r) 10.25 *Playdays* presented by Dave Benson Phillips and Elizabeth Watts (r)  
10.30 Mother Teresa with a prayer in thanksgiving for animals  
11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*: Gloria Hunniford and Jeyme Irving look at television's reporting of disasters such as Hurricane Hugo. Survivors and their relatives take part in a discussion about whether blanket coverage of the damage puts pressure on the families of the dead and injured  
12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live*, Magazine series presented by Alan Craig and Judy Spiers 12.30 *Regional news and...?*

1.00 News with Phillip Hayton. Weather  
1.30 *Neighbours* (Ceefax) 1.30 *Turnabout*. Another round of the word quiz hosted by Rob Curling  
2.15 Film: *Dear Murdance* (1947, b/w) starring Eric Portman, Grete Gynt and Dennis Price. Run-of-the-mill police murder story with Portman as a first-former who has a husband who eliminates his wife's lover in what he thinks is unacceptable fashion. Directed by Arthur Crabtree

3.30 *ChuckleVision*. The Chuckle brothers – Paul and Barry – try their hand at postal deliveries 4.00 *Outpost*. Adventures of a quick-witted cowboy (r) 4.30 *Playdays* and the last episode of *Eric*: Eric's three of *Victor Geosee's* 13-part series starring Elizabeth Spriggs and Hugh Pollard (r) 4.30 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles*

5.00 *Newsbeat* 5.10 *The Lowdown*. Young victims of crime talk about how they are being helped by the Victims Support Scheme (Ceefax)  
5.35 *Star Gazing* (r) (Ceefax)  
6.00 *Star Gazing* with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather  
6.30 *Regional News Magazines*  
7.00 *Style Trial* (see *Choice*)  
7.30 *EastEnders*. Another episode from the saga about the cockney denizens of Albert Square, some of whom gang up tonight to threaten the threatened mentor (Ceefax)

8.00 *To the Max*: Born. Peter Spence's upper crust comedy continues with audience reading that his mother has got stuck – she is still wearing his top hat to coincide with Richard's break. Starring Penelope Keith and Peter Bowles (r). (Ceefax)

8.30 *A Question of Sport*. Bill Beaumont, now in an unbeatable position, is joined by Linda Keough and Paul Parker: the down but not dispirited Ian Botham hopes to bring some kudos with his talk of Aly Raisman and Eric Bristow (Ceefax)

9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather  
9.30 *Masked Ost*. Episode six of Debbie Horsfield's guity drama about the women workers in a Manchester electronics factory. Starring Muriel Clarke. (Ceefax)

10.30 *Film 90* with Barry Norman. This week's edition includes a review of *John Hughes' comedy Uncle Buck* and a report on the prevailing attitude to cinemas towards the disabled

10.50 *Quique Jones: A Celebration in Seattle*. The top musician, who has written award-winning film scores and produced Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, in a rare live performance. Special guests include Ray Charles and Patti Austin

12.00 *International Cricket*. Tony Lewis introduces highlights of the final day's play in the fourth Test between West Indies and England from Bridgetown, Barbados

12.30am *Mother Teresa* gives her thanks for humour

12.35 Weather

## RADIO 3

6.35am *Open University* (FM only)  
6.35 News and Weather  
7.00 *Music*: *Music for the Mind*: *Verdi*, *orchestra*, *Overture*, *Aida*: LSO under Claudio Abbado; *Aguado* (*Introduction and Rondo*, Op 2); *2 No 3: Julian Bream*, *guitar*; *Chabrier* (*Dance suite*); *Roel maligul*; *French NO* (under Jordan)

7.30 News  
7.35 *Morning Concert* (cont'd): *De Falz* (*Hommage*); *Cinquante SO* under *Jesus Lopez-Cobos*; *Milnau*; *Concerto* in *one end* and *Claude Hobson*, *pianos*; *Gounod* (*Petite symphonie*; *Munch Wind Academy* under *Brezina*)

8.30 *Connoisseurs of the Week*: *Mozart* – *The Path to the Requiem*. *Orpheus* (*Orfeo*); *convivium* (*Litanies de venerabilis altaris*); *Sacramento*, K 249 (*ECO* and *Robert Shaw*); *Mess*, K 187 (*Vienna Boys' Choir*); *Chorus*; *Viennesser*; *Vienna CO* under *Gilleßenberger*; *Exultate, Jubilate*, K 165 (*ECO* under *Lappert*)

8.35 *Luzia's Berceuse*: *Leopold Hoffmeister* performs *Overture*; *King Lear*; *Dance of the Sylphs*; *The Damnation of Faust*; *Benediction and Sermon*; *"Benvenuto Cellini"*; *Overture*, *Les Francs-Juges* (r)

8.35 *Psychic Beale* SO under *Johns*; *Concerto* in *C* major; *Francesc* (*Symphonies*)

8.40 *Swedish Choral Music*: *Scandinavian Season*, BBC Welsh Chamber Choir under J. Hugh Thomas performs *Stenhammar* (*September*); *Oskar Lindberg* (*Phantom*; *Widstrand* (*Kung lyston*); *voivo*; *Hugo Alfvén* (*vid världen*); *Afternoon*; *Ake Malmfors* (*Mänsk*; *Hälsingland*); *SNO* under *Byrdon* *Thomson* performs *Haydn* (*Symphony No 53 in G minor*; *Han*; *Rachmaninov* (*Piano Concerto No 1*); *Mirino* (*Panties*; *symphonies*); *Dvořák* (*Slavonic*); *Glazunov* (*Concerto* in C minor, Op 10; *No 4*; *Glazunov* (*Quartet* in D, Op 25 No 3); *Mozart*; *Sonata* in F for violin and continuo, V 13; J. C. Bach (*Quintet* in G, Op 11 No 2))

8.45 *News*: *Reel* (*Lullaby*); *Recital* from *Cardiff*; *Schubert Ensemble* (*London* performs *Martini* (*Variations on a Slovak Theme*); *for Cello and piano*); *Jascha* (*In Tears*; *Com*)

9.00 *News*: *1.00* *Outline*; *1.30* *Turning Points*, 1.45 *Country*; *2.00* *World News*; *2.45* *Sports Roundup*, 2.50 *On the Record*; *3.00* *News* 10.01; *Discovery* 10.30; *Mid Magazine* 10.35; *Travel News* 11.00; *Newsbeat* 11.15; *News About Britain* 11.30; *Wipeout* 12.15; *Newsbeat* 12.30; *Sports Roundup* 12.45; *Financial News* 12.50; *World News* 1.00; *News* 1.15; *1.30* *Weather* and *Travel News*

## RADIO 4

## TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

## TELEVISION

6.00 *TV-am* begins with *News and Good Morning Britain*, presented by Linda Mitchell, and, from 7.00, by Lorraine Kelly and Michael Madsen. With *News* at 6.00, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30, *Weather* at 8.00 and *Travel News* at 8.30. *Weekday* at 8.00 includes another report from *Timmy Mallett* in Spain

8.25 *Cross Wits*. Word game hosted by Tom O'Connor 8.45 *Thames News and Weather*

10.00 *Out of This World*. Episode two of the children's adventure serial about a 13-year-old girl whose father is an alien

10.30 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by John Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes financial advice, photography hints and a *Royals* report. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather

12.10 *Red, Jane and Freddy* (r) 12.30 *Home and Away*

1.00 *News at One* with John Suchet. Weather 1.20 *Thames News and Weather* 1.30 *Santa Barbara*. Unusually hilarious supposed *Death* scenes set in sunny California

2.00 *TV Weekly*. Anne Diamond peers behind the scenes of popular ITV programmes 2.30 *Take the High Road*. Soap set in the scenic Highlands

3.00 *Shows Like Music*. Bobby Crush tests contestants' knowledge of stage and screen classics 3.25 *The Young and the Restless* 3.30 *The Young Doctors*. On-going Australian family drama

4.00 *Off Mr Toad* narrated by Ian Carmichael 4.20 *Phoenix Hall*. Children's drama series set in a state boarding school (*Teletoon*) 4.45 *Scrooby Doo* (r)

5.10 *Blockbusters* 5.40 *News* 6.00 *Weather* 6.15 *TV Choice* (r)

6.30 *Thames News and Weather*. Followed by *Crimestoppers*

7.00 *Emmerdale*. Topical bucolic soap set in the Yorkshire dales. (*Orbit*)

7.30 *Thames*. Reports analyse the forces behind the riot in London 10 days ago, and examines the possible impact of the changes in London's telephone code, due in May

8.00 *The Bill*. *Fall House*. More well-acted and authentic dramas about a busy East End of London police station. (*Orbit*)

8.30 *After Harry*. Simon Brett's gently amusing domestic comedy starring Prunella Scales as a widow with an innovative mother and a rebellious teenage son (r)

9.00 *Chancer*. *Principles*. Big business drama series starring Cive Owen as an amoral money man. (*Orbit*)

10.00 *News at Ten* with Alastair Burnet and Trevor McDonald. Weather 10.30 *Thames News and Weather*

10.30 *Compass*. *Down the Spine of Britain* (r)

11.30 *TV at Ten* with Diane Baker. A media review of the week. (*Orbit*)

12.00 *Newsbeat* 12.30 *Weather*

1.00 *ITN Morning News* with Anne Leckie. Ends at 6.00

1.30 *News* 1.45 *Weather*

2.00 *ITN Evening News* with Anne Leckie. Ends at 12.30am

2.30 *ITN News* 2.45 *Weather*

3.00 *ITN News* 3.15 *Weather*

3.30 *ITN News* 3.45 *Weather*

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7.30 *ITN News* 7.45 *Weather*

8.00 *ITN News* 8.15 *Weather*

# Pepsico in biggest US trade deal with Russia

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

IN THE biggest trade agreement ever signed between a US company and the Soviet Union, Pepsico Inc yesterday signed a \$3 billion (£1.8 billion) agreement to barter Pepsi Cola for Russian vodka, tanks and ships.

The agreement extends the reciprocal trade arrangement until the year 2000. Pepsi Cola sales in the Soviet Union will more than double through the expansion of production plants, bringing their number from the current 24 to 50.

The contract was signed here by Mr Donald Kendall, the company's chairman, who first negotiated the Pepsi Cola deal with the Soviet Union in 1971, and the Soviet commission on agriculture and soft drink.

A novel arrangement is the bartering of 10 tankers and freighters, ranging in size from 28,500 tonnes to 65,000 tonnes, with a total value of more than \$300 million. Until now Pepsico has taken its profits out of the Soviet Union by selling Stolichnaya vodka in the United States.

The funding for the bottling equipment in the 26 new Pepsi

plants will be covered by proceeds from Russian vodka sales. Foreign exchange credits generated from the sales and lease of the ships will also be partly used for initial investment in two Pizza Hut restaurants, due to open in Moscow this year.

Pepsico, with annual sales worldwide of more than \$15 billion, is one of the biggest consumer product companies in the world. It was one of the first to enter the Soviet market, following a famous debate between Vice-President Nixon and Nikita Khrushchev drinking Pepsi Cola during their "kitchen debates" in 1959. Pepsi is the most popular soft drink in the Soviet Union, and is widely available. The Russians are keen to boost its sales further as a way of countering alcoholism.

The deal took into account the market devaluation of the ruble. At the official exchange rate it would have been worth \$1.5 billion for vodka and \$7.5 billion for Pepsi Cola. Sales of soft drinks made by the company in the Soviet Union were last year worth 300 million roubles.

## Borrie orders inquiry into the price of instant coffee

By Michael Hornsall

AN INVESTIGATION into the £550 million instant coffee market was ordered yesterday after consumer complaints about its retail price.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission was called in by Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of Fair Trading, who has just completed a four-month inquiry at the request of Mr John Gummer, Minister of Agriculture.

Complaints to the Minister that the fall in world coffee prices had not been reflected in the retail price prompted the initial concern.

The market leaders in Britain - Nestle (Nescafe and Gold Blend) and Kraft General Foods (Maxwell House and Kenco) - both said they were surprised by the referral and pointed out that coffee prices were as low as in 1985.

But Sir Gordon said that his investigation suggested that "price competition" in this market is not as effective as it might be".

The MMC investigation is aimed at confirming whether one supplier has 25% or more of the market - defined as a



Sir Gordon: Completed four-month inquiry

monopoly under the Fair Trading Act. If a monopoly exists, the MMC must then consider whether any aspect of the company's activities operates against the public interest.

The MMC will have nine months to complete the investigation and report to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Sir Gordon added: "While acknowledging that Nestle's strength in this market may be due to the quality of its product, the OFT believes that the evidence on the

relationship between changes in the price of coffee beans and of the finished product and on profitability suggests that price competition in this market is not as effective as it might be."

"It is important to consumers that there should be effective competition in the markets for significant items in the household budget, such as instant coffee."

Top-selling brands went down by 20p per 100g jar in January, following a 40 per cent fall in the price of coffee on world markets.

But consumer organizations pointed out that an insufficient reduction was passed on later than necessary to shoppers.

A spokesman for Nestle said: "Instant coffee drinkers get extremely good value. Prices are lower than anywhere else in Western Europe. Competition is intense."

Kraft General Foods said: "We shall co-operate fully with the commission but this is not a referral we were expecting. We believe coffee prices represent good value."

## Haughey pledge on killers

Continued from page 1

later claimed responsibility for the attack, detonated the bomb, by either remote control or a command wire, from a high ground next to the town's racecourse to the south of the road as the Land Rovers passed.

The estimated 1,000lb of

explosive tore through the second Land-Rover throwing it more than 20 yards into a field, leaving a crater in the road 50ft wide by 12ft deep.

The bombing is the worst loss of life inflicted on the Army since eight soldiers died in the bus bombing at Ballygawley in Co Tyrone in August 1988.

It closely resembled an attack on an Army Land-Rover at Mayobridge, also in South Down, last October when three members of the Parachute regiment were killed.

The four soldiers who died yesterday were deployed, as is customary on routine mobile patrols, two standing in the front and two standing in the back, riding "top cover" on the look-out for suspicious activity dressed in camouflage, helmets and carrying rifles.

It seemed certain they died instantly. A military source at the scene said the Land-Rover lying in the field was barely

recognizable as a vehicle. He said it resembled a "squashed sardine can".

The four soldiers in the lead Land-Rover were taken to hospital suffering from shock. Two civilians driving in opposite directions on either side of the patrol were lucky to escape with minor cuts.

The commanding officer of the RUD, Brigadier Charles Ritchie, was clearly shocked by what he had seen. He said he had just come back from a scene of "mass murder".

With the British Government still deeply perturbed by the refusal last Friday of the Irish Supreme Court to extradite Owen Carron, Mrs Thatcher suggested that such decisions could hamper the anti-terrorist battle.

In a BBC radio interview Mrs Thatcher said of the killing of the four Ulster Defence Regiment soldiers: "Yet again another horror. Yet again four families have lost a soldier. The UDR is very brave, very courageous."

Responding to the news of the Downpatrick bombing while in Brussels on a tour of European capitals, Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, assured that the murderers would not escape extradition on the grounds

that their crime was politically motivated.

Ireland's 1965 legislation granting exemption from extradition for political cases had been superseded by a 1987 law, in accordance with the European Convention on Terrorism, which now severely limits the chances of exemption on political grounds.

If found, the Downpatrick killers will not be enjoy such exemption under the 1987 law, Mr Haughey said.

Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said: "I'm absolutely appalled by events in Downpatrick and the loss of four UDR men."

Mr Eddie McGuire, the MP for the area, called the bombing "this holocaust on Holy Week".

Mr Martin McGuinness, spokesman for Sinn Fein, said ritual condemnations of the Downpatrick bombing were worthless. "They make no positive contribution toward removing the conditions which resulted in the deaths."

Mr Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said a proposed visit to Belfast tomorrow by Mr Haughey - his first to the city since before the troubles began - should now be called off.

## Public schools face random drug tests

By David Tyree, Education Editor

UP TO 20 public schools are considering instituting random drug testing of all pupils in an attempt to cut down on drug abuse. At least one school has written to parents asking for their views.

Parents of the 360 pupils, including 100 girls, at the 28,250-euro Marlborough College, Wiltshire, have been asked whether they would approve the annual tests which would take place "without warning".

The scheme is proposed by Dr Hugh McCollum, a medical adviser for the Lawn Tennis Association and the Test and County Cricket Board, who has just set up Drugs in Education, a new company to advise against drug abuse in schools.

Dr McCollum, a general practitioner in the West Midlands, has suggested to the schools that they should consider setting up a drug prevention programme to deal with this "growing and terrifying problem".

He refused to say which other schools were interested

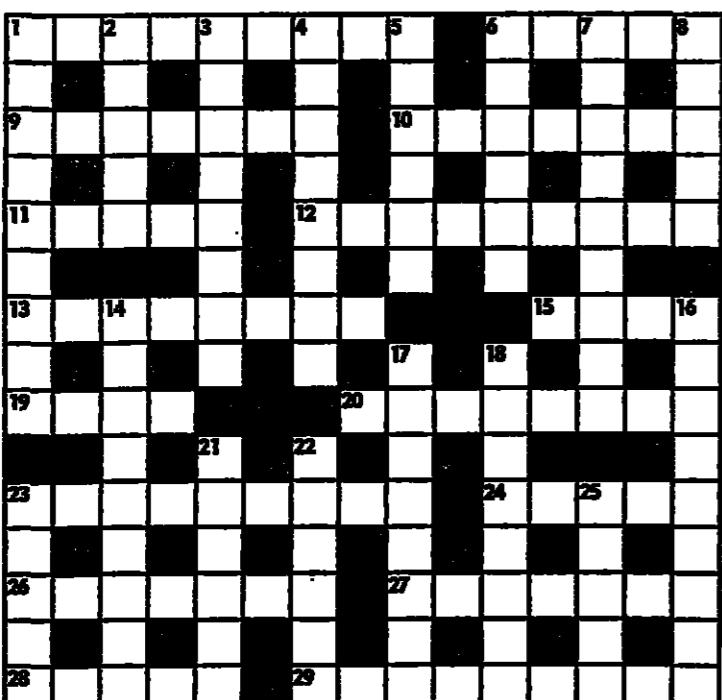
in his scheme, but added: "As far as I am aware the drug problem is no worse there than elsewhere. All places of education have to consider methods of drug education and you may have to consider random testing, certainly all sports do it."

Mr David Cope, the headmaster of Marlborough, which expelled seven pupils for taking drugs earlier this year, has written to parents saying that if they agree, the college would be one of about 20 schools in the new scheme.

The random urine test would take place at least once a year and would check for cannabis, amphetamines, heroin, cocaine and crack. A second sample would be kept for parents who wanted to carry out their own tests following a positive finding by the school.

The Marlborough parents have been asked to fill in a form to indicate whether they approve the scheme and are invited to write to Mr Cope, explaining their views in detail.

### THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,264



ACROSS  
1 A place from which to view 12's home (5-4).  
6 Egyptian has no capital in sight (5).  
9 Train in torn clothes? (7).  
10 Husband makes judge fall (7).  
11 The gold standard? (5).  
12 Brave Communist from Asia (3-6).  
13 Criticize faulty trap (3-5).  
15 Left one member drooping (4).  
19 It's demonstrated primarily by gay laughter, exuberant elation (4).  
20 Operatic game (8).  
23 Unusual athlete - one who contested prohibition (3-6).  
24 Lift the lateral part (5).  
26 Anybody that wove her spells badly (7).  
  
Solutions to Puzzle No 18,263

GENERAL ASHAMED ROEG DODGE ELIOT CARRIDGE NEXICOSEES AMOUNT MINETIES DENTIST ICENIC CONSTRAIN NOMEHEE ERHONEROUS SCREW IOSTEJ PASTILLE DAPPLE AKSGEMOR WHIRLWIND EASES HERINAE DIGITAL TOTALLY

27 Pineapple from Caribbean island lacking a head to eat (7).  
28 Prevent animals eating the last of the harvest (5).  
29 Writer in prison employed profitably (4-5).  
  
DOWN  
1 Reprimand scholar finally losing language (6-3).  
2 Success in raising fare is overdue (5).  
3 Old poet adopting English framework (3).  
4 The whole being without note (8).  
5 Abuse one employed in commerce (6).  
6 Most distant extremity is hurt (6).  
7 Elaborately adorn it - it's the custom (9).  
8 Gorge, as a rule (5).  
14 Someone attractive possibly met aboard (9).  
16 Quite go back to the books in the previous example (9).  
17 Involvement of Adam with girl causing 19 (8).  
18 Portrait of one man in smaller frame (8).  
21 Archer's cast appears to be shaky (6).  
22 Merry jester who got doctor in again (6).  
23 Within the staff, we had arguments (5).  
25 Open festival of love (5).  
  
Solution to Crossword page 18.

Concise crossword page 18.

### WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard  
CLASS ASS

AMALTHEA  
a. A many goat  
b. A Grace  
c. Penelope's aged nurse

MARCITES  
a. A Pseudo-Platonic dialogue  
b. A variorum, used Lydian king  
c. A lost satirical epic

SCOLION  
a. A textual gloss  
b. A pink marble mountain  
c. A drinking-song

HYPALLAGE  
a. Grammatical elegant variation  
b. A Thracian forest nymph  
c. An incestuous stepmother

Answers on page 18

### AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 732

M-ways/roads M25 733

M-ways/roads M23-M4 734

M25 London Orbital only 735

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways 737

West Country 738

Midlands 740

East Anglia 741

North-west England 742

North-east England 743

Scotland 744

Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

### WEATHER

Scotland and the Northern Isles will be windy with local gales and showers. Northern England and Northern Ireland will start cloudy with a little rain but will quickly turn brighter. Eastern and central England and Wales will have a cloudy start with light rain, but also become brighter. East Anglia, central and south-west England will be bright. South-east England will cloud over later. Outlook: Rain.

### ABROAD

Midday: 1-thunder & drizzle; 4-5pm: 8-9pm; 11-12am: 1-2am; 1-2am: 4-5am.

Evening: 1-2am: 4-5am; 11-12am: 1-2am; 1-2am: 4-5am.

Overnight: 1-2am: 4-5am; 11-12am: 1-2am; 1-2am: 4-5am.

AM: 1-2am: 4-5am; 11-12am: 1-2am; 1-2am: 4-5am.

PM: 1-2am: 4-5am; 11-12am: 1-2am; 1-2am: 4-5am.

### AROUND BRITAIN

Scandinavia 10.2 hrs 11 C 11 F

Malta 12.5 hrs 12 C 12 F

Croatia 10.3 hrs 10 C 10 F

Montenegro 8.5 hrs 9 C 9 F

Peloponnese 11.7 hrs 11 C 11 F

East Aegean 12.8 hrs 12 C 12 F

North Aegean 11.5 hrs 11 C 11 F

South Aegean 11.5 hrs 11 C 11 F

Levant 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Syria 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Lebanon 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Palestine 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Jordan 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Israel 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Hamas 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

West Bank 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Gaza Strip 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Yemen 12.1 hrs 12 C 12 F

Arabian Peninsula 12.



TEMPUS

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Fortnum &amp; Mason advances to £1.9m

THE appetite of Fortnum & Mason's customers for the store's luxury Christmas hampers helped it increase pre-tax profits from £1.76 million to £1.96 million in the year to January. A total of 60,000 hampers were sold last Christmas. Profits at the half-way stage had been down, but Mr Gerald Hamilton, Fortnum's managing director, said the new warehouse meant that for the first time Fortnum could fully meet demand for its hampers. Fortnum's total sales rose from £21 million to £23.1 million. Earnings per share rose 10 per cent to 294p. The total dividend is 83p (61p). Fortnum is 86 per cent owned by George Weston Holdings.

## Warning at Courtney

THE downturn in the retail sector is continuing to squeeze profits at Courtney Pope, the shopfitting, lighting and engineering group. Mr. David Peacock, the chairman, said the company does not expect to see an improvement in second-half trading results, which are due at the end of May. Courtney's shares lost 5p to 114p.

## Lamont edges higher

LAMONT Holdings, the textiles group, made pre-tax profits of £12.4 million, up from £12 million last year, on sales of £29.7 million against £29.67 million. Operating profits fell from £1.2 million to £1.12 million, but interest of £1.18 million helped boost pre-tax profits and earnings per share rose from 33.2p to 35.5p. The total dividend is 11.25p up from 9.5p.

Sir Desmond Lorimer, Lamont's chairman and chief executive, intends to relinquish the job of chief executive this year. He will continue as executive chairman. Mr Richard Milliken, who joined Lamont as group managing director in January, will take over as chief executive. Lamont shares rose 5p to 27.3p.

## Helene profit tops £4m

HELENE, the clothing manufacturer and distributor, made pre-tax profits of £4.11 million, up from £2.1 million in 1989, on sales of £61.9 million (£41.5 million) last year. Earnings per share rose from 2.5p to 4.5p and the total dividend is 1.97p (1.79p). Mr Monty Burkeman, the chairman, reports that turnover in the first quarter is well ahead of last year.

## Dewhurst profit dips

DEWHIRST Group, supplier of clothing and toiletries to Marks and Spencer, is suffering from the downturn in consumer spending. Profits fell last year and the group says prospects for consumer spending in 1990 are not encouraging. Pre-tax profits for the year to January fell from £7.42 million to £5.51 million on sales of £102 million, up from £94.3 million. Earnings per share fell from 4.97p to 3.88p. The dividend is 1.15p, up 7.5 per cent.

Mr Timothy Dewhurst, chief executive, said: "We are particularly fortunate to have Marks and Spencer as our major customer in these difficult times, and sales for the first 11 weeks of this year are ahead." Last month, Dewhurst acquired Maydella, which makes children's clothes for M&S.

## WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Daily Value (£)	Yearly Change (%)	Daily Value (\$)	Yearly Change (%)	Daily Value (\$)	Yearly Change (%)
The World	686.9	0.4	-17.1	0.5	-12.8	0.4
(free)	133.5	0.4	-17.3	0.5	-12.9	0.4
EAFFE	1199.2	0.6	-23.0	0.4	-17.8	0.6
(free)	123.0	0.6	-23.3	0.3	-18.1	0.6
Europe	732.3	0.1	-3.7	0.2	-3.0	0.1
(free)	157.8	0.1	-3.5	-0.1	-3.0	0.1
Nth America	509.0	0.1	-5.4	0.1	-3.6	0.1
Nordic	1482.3	-0.3	-4.8	-0.2	-3.8	-0.3
(free)	234.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.2
Pacific	2623.1	1.0	-33.9	0.6	-26.7	1.0
Far East	3782.6	1.1	-34.6	0.7	-27.3	1.1
Australia	302.5	-1.2	-12.9	-0.9	-8.4	-1.2
Austria	2123.8	-0.7	-42.9	-0.6	-46.3	-0.7
Belgium	902.8	-0.3	-8.3	-0.1	-7.6	-0.3
Canada	538.7	0.2	-10.3	0.3	-7.8	0.2
Denmark	1336.5	-0.2	-1.5	0.0	-2.1	-0.2
Finland	105.6	-0.3	-8.4	-0.2	-7.5	-0.3
(free)	140.9	-0.7	-5.5	-0.6	-4.6	-0.7
France	803.2	1.0	-0.7	1.1	0.1	1.2
Germany	988.6	-0.2	-3.8	-0.1	-3.0	-0.2
Hong Kong	2200.2	0.0	3.2	0.0	5.1	0.0
Italy	374.1	0.2	-3.0	0.4	-2.4	0.2
Japan	3862.1	1.2	-35.9	0.7	-28.3	1.2
Netherlands	306.5	-0.3	-5.3	-0.2	-3.3	-0.3
New Zealand	85.1	-0.9	-17.4	-0.8	-13.4	-0.9
Norway	1545.3	-1.3	-15.1	-1.1	-16.9	-1.3
(free)	271.3	-1.3	-16.1	-1.2	-18.0	-1.3
Sing/Malay	1919.6	-1.3	-3.8	-1.4	-3.2	-1.3
Spain	150.4	-0.1	-15.6	0.0	-19.0	-0.1
Sweden	1564.1	-0.1	-10.8	0.0	-10.0	-0.1
(free)	220.4	0.5	-8.9	0.6	-8.1	0.5
Switzerland	857.5	0.6	-8.2	0.4	-6.8	0.6
(free)	131.0	0.7	-6.1	0.5	-6.7	0.7
UK	682.5	0.0	-8.1	0.0	-8.1	0.0
USA	459.2	0.1	-5.0	0.1	-3.2	0.1

(\*) Local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Next Deadline: April 12 Last Deadline: July 5 For Settlement: July 11 Call options were last seen at: \$4,900 SW Wood, SBU Stores, Sime & Sime, Standard Motor Leasing, Tandy, Bridgestone, BFC, Rockwell, Marine & General, Apricot Computer, Chloride, Milwaukee, Lektron, Kahl, Mirabelle, Atlantic Resources, Dodge, Bimac, Rush & Tropidone, Colorad, Peter & Clegg, Next, York, Trust.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

# Midsummer directors end support for offer

By Stephen Leather

THE directors of Midsummer Leisure, the pub, snooker and discoteque group, have withdrawn their recommendation of the takeover bid from European Leisure.

When European Leisure, which is headed by Mr Michael Ward and owns the Hippodrome nightspot in London, announced its takeover bid last week, its share offer was worth about £90 million.

But Mecca's dismal results last week have hit sentiment, and the share price is down, and European Leisure's offer was worth £70 million yesterday.

As a result, Midsummer's directors feel unable to recommend the deal to their shareholders, though they still hold the view that the take-

over will enable Midsummer to develop at a faster rate than it could on its own.

European Leisure is offering 144 new shares and 50 preference shares, or £50 cash, for every 100 Midsummer shares. Before details of the deal were released, Midsummer shares were trading at 131p. They were changing hands at 251p a year ago.

Assuming the deal goes ahead, Mr Paul Recco, the deputy chairman of Midsummer, and Mr Ian Rock, a director, will join the enlarged group's board, while Mr Adam Page, the chairman, intends to resign.

Mr Page has written to shareholders, saying the current price does not reflect the company's prospects or

the commercial benefits of combining the groups.

Acceptances are now running at about 10.4 million Midsummer shares, representing almost 20 per cent of the equity.

The deal will make the combined group the third largest leisure group in Britain, behind Mecca and First Leisure. European Leisure plans to sell off all of Midsummer's 40 pubs as part of a strategy of focusing on discos and theme bars. Mr Ward hopes to raise about £45 million from the sales and to more than halve the combined group's borrowings.

Meanwhile, European Leisure has paid £6.6 million for two West End nightspots.

## Scottish TV shows 21% rise

Scottish Television is tightening costs in the face of an industry-wide slowdown in TV advertising.

The group, which has cut staff from 810 to 666, increased pre-tax profit last year by 21 per cent to £11.1 million after absorbing the £1.15-million redundancy costs. Pauline Hyde, the outplacement agency acquired in 1988, contributed £804,000 to profits.

Advertising revenue grew by 7.15 per cent to £87.3 million, which the group says is marginally ahead of the sector's growth. Programme sales rose by 52 per cent to £12.9 million and total turnover from £92.2 million to £104 million. There was an extraordinary profit of £4 million from the sale of the stake in Independent Television Publications. Earnings per share rose 14 per cent to 61p and the final dividend is up from 15.25p to 20p. The shares fell 13p to 47.9p.

## Compass bid cleared

The Office of Fair Trading cleared Compass Group's £97 million all-paper bid for Sketchley, the dry cleaning and vending company. Compass said it had not yet decided to launch a new bid for Sketchley after the board and major shareholders countered its offer by recommending the appointment of a new management team on Friday.

The market speculated that a new bid may arrive from Compass or, perhaps, Godfrey Davis, which withdrew a £126 million offer in February. This pushed Sketchley's share price 5p higher to close at 27.2p.

## UFI ahead 29%

United Friendly Insurance, the USM insurance group, increased pre-tax profits by 29 per cent to £20.7 million in 1989. The final dividend of 28.75p, up from 21.7p, makes 41p.

## Fleet's in

TVS Entertainment, the ITV franchise holder for the South of England area, has appointed Mr Kenneth Fleet, a former executive editor of *The Times* Business News, as a non-executive director.

## Clapham swaps omnibus

STEPHEN Clapham, for the past couple of years transport and shipping analyst at Hoare Govett, is breaking out into fresh fields. He has been poached by Nomura to look at utilities and in particular the power privatization. "I'm told I've got to trade in my Lotus for a Datsun Bluebird," he joked. "I think he was joking. Stephen was a management consultant before joining Hoare Govett nearly five years ago. "The initial emphasis will be to get up to speed on the utilities situation, principally electricity," he said. "That's the excitement and the challenge - it's a tremendously complex industry, it's all changing and it's all new. It's a green field site." He concedes that the Government is going to have its problems selling power, not least because of the City's lack of understanding of the industry. "The structure's entirely different to anything else around the world - the market has got a big education task ahead of it," he says.

## Marked down

WHATEVER the decision eventually made about the West-East mark rate, the West Germans are already becoming excited about their new bank notes which are due to go into circulation in October. To publicize the notes, the Bundesbank has been mounting a special campaign and has been answering thousands of questions. It seems to be the

## Small dressed for City

By Martin Waller

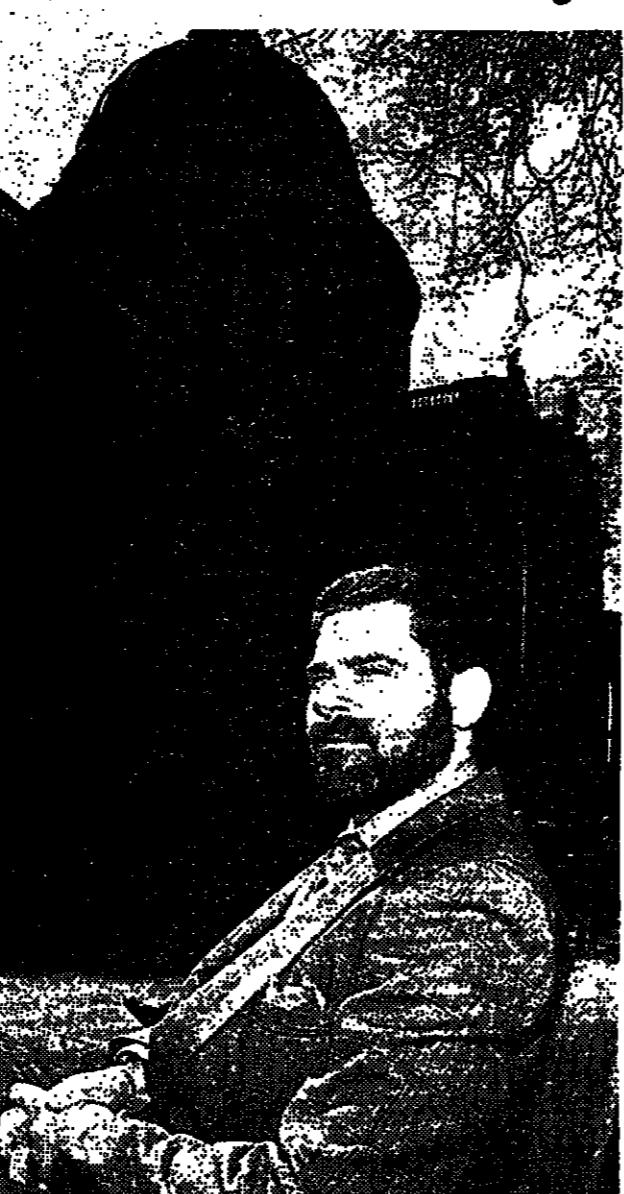
A MAKER of uniforms for big American corporations, like Kentucky Fried Chicken and Federal Express, is set to come to the London stock market by means of a reverse takeover of Amerocor Energy, a quoted shell company.

Amerocor, initially a mining company, has been prepared for the acquisition by Mr Mark Vaughan-Lee, the company's director, and MIM, led by Lord Stevens. The deal, with Horace Small Apparel Company of Tennessee, expected to be announced this week, is the seventh of its kind sponsored by MIM.

The reverse takeover involves the purchase of Small for \$58.25 million, to be funded by a rights issue. Of that, \$14.75 million will go to purchasing the company itself and \$13.5 million will be paid to Mr Dong Small under a non-competition agreement which will allow tax savings under US law over the next five years.

Mr Small is president and chief executive of the company and will continue with Amerocor, to be renamed United Uniform Services. Another \$30 million will repay almost all Small's bank debt and allow expansion into what is still a fragmented market in the US. Among Small's customers are the National Parks Service and the US Customs.

The company has no intention to expand in Britain. Small said an over-the-counter quote in New York would not have provided a broad enough equity base.



Uniform approach: Dong Small outside St Paul's

## Airport hits Mowlem profit

By Matthew Bond

JOHN Mowlem, the contractor, is almost certain to close its London City Airport in the Docklands if a public inquiry this summer decides that jets should not be allowed to use the airport.

Mr Roger Sainsbury, a director, said it is virtually impossible to see the airport having a profitable future without the introduction of the BAE 146 jet.

The statement came with preliminary pre-tax profits of £22 million for the year to

December, against £59.5 million last time.

Most of the shortfall is due to the £33 million write-down against the airport. Taken in the form of a £33 million exceptional item, the write-offs include a £20 million reduction in the book value of the airport and £2 million of related development costs.

The balance is made up of £7 million of future losses and £4 million to be spent on the public inquiry.

A dividend of 21.0p (19.5p)

is recommended. Operating profits at Mowlem's house-building division fell from £17.2 million to just £7.4 million in the period. Profits from the group's commercial development arm, half-owned by Royal Trust, fell from £6.3 million to £4.9 million.

However, construction raised its operating profits by 79 per cent to £10.4 million, while profits from scaffolding rose by 17 per cent to £37.9 million. Gearing stands at about 50 per cent.

The trial continues today.

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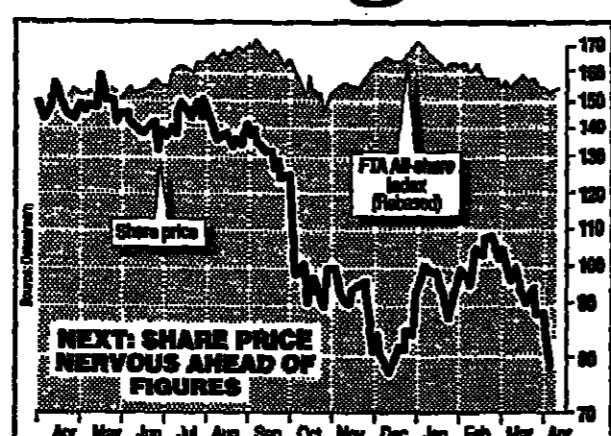
## STOCK MARKET

# Goldman Sachs snaps up 8.3m Argos shares

ARGOS, the catalogue shops chain, demerged from BAT Industries last week, rose 3½p to 205½p as the first tranche of shares in Argos, belonging to holders of BAT's American Depository Receipts, came under the hammer.

Goldman Sachs, the New York securities house, is believed to have out-bid rival London houses by offering 202.6p each for the 8.3 million shares.

Dealers are now waiting to find out what Goldman intends to do with the shares. If they have already been placed with clients, then a further rise in the price can be expected. But if Goldman has taken



failed to prevent an early

market-up.

Renewed buying of the June FT-SE 100 future contract also cheered sentiment. But turnover remained pitifully thin with few investors willing to open fresh trading positions ahead of the Easter break. Only 304 million shares were traded.

The FT-SE 100 index showed signs of running out of steam but was revived by a firm start to trading on Wall Street. It closed 6.6 up at 2,227.7.

The FT index of 30 shares

Talk in the market claims that BT is ready to include the cost of its proposed restructuring, announced last month, in the final quarter's figures. One estimate is that this could be as much as 2600 million. But the BT price slumped aside the news to finish 4½p better at 248p.

them on to its own books and they are left overhanging the market, it could depress the price.

Brokers like County National WoodMac claim that Argos is a buy up to 190p while another US broker, Salomon Brothers, says that it might be worth another 5p a share. BAT's ADR holders are forced sellers of the shares and it is known that a further 6 million may be on offer from New York within the next few days.

BAT rose 12p to 755p as it continued to buy its own shares in the market-place, picking up a further 525,000 at 740p.

Meanwhile, share prices generally opened the three-week Easter account on a firm note, helped by news of an 110-point overnight rally in Tokyo and the absence of hostilities at the G7 meeting during the weekend in Paris.

A heavy list of blue-chip companies going ex-dividend — equivalent to a loss of almost 5 points on the index —

Next, the troubled fashion retailer, ran into further nervous selling ahead of today's full-year figures, losing 4p to a new low of 79p.

Rush & Tappins, the property developer and construction group, plunged from 125p to touch a low of 15p amid confused talk of a deterioration in trading. The shares were eventually suspended at 63p.

Rival Higgs and Hill bought a 14.9 per cent stake in the company in October, 1988, paying almost 300p a share before disposing of it in March last year for 385p.

Higgs is expected to produce pre-tax profits of 22.7

also rose 2.1 to 1,742.3. Government securities showed gains of about 24 at the longer end, helped by the pound's rise against some of its rivals.

Among the leaders, selective support lifted ICI 11p to £1.95 while Polly Peck continued to benefit from recent figures and a re-rating with a rise of 13p to 391p.

Skechers, currently the target of a possible bid from Compagnie Générale, rose 9p to 272p, after the Government decided not to re-tar the possible bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

million when it announces full-year figures tomorrow. These were forecast in its defence document after this year's abortive £160 million bid from YJ Lowell.

Higgs held steady at 371p, while Lowell slipped 2p to 230p.

British Land lost a lead to close all-square at 381p after touching 395p. The speculators were excited by talk that Mr John Ribbats, the chairman, has devised another set of reconstruction proposals after the original ones were rejected by institutional shareholders.

But the company said that any new plans could be some way off.

Priest Marrian, the debt-laden property group, shrugged off recent weakness, stemming from its qualified accounts, to end 23p better at 233p. The group is still in bid talks with Grovehead Securities.

Michael Clark

Schroders has put out a sell note on Southern Business Group, one of the USM's success stories but off 3p at 112p at a result. She is worried about its policy of writing off the costs of equipment and about growing customer resistance.

Skateley, currently the target of a possible bid from Compagnie Générale, rose 9p to 272p, after the Government decided not to re-tar the possible bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

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Michael Clark

## ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT	1,952	CU	544	602
Alpha Net	2,023	Codicor	247	262
Amersham	1,075	Delgate	72	102
ASDA	1,682	Dixons	1,245	1,267
ASFO	17	ECI	278	278
BAA	1,991	Enterprise	221	221
BET	221	Ferranti	973	955
BTR	3,084	Flors	1,344	1,555
BTC	563	FOCI	555	555
BTC	522	FOCI Acc	513	513
Boss	266	GEC	1,285	1,285
Boss	213	Glenco	228	228
Borden	142	Goode Inv	512	512
Brown & Root	1,021	Glyndwr	305	305
BBC	558	Group Met	587	587
BRC	355	GUS 'A'	225	225
BRC	2,704	GRE	244	244
BTC	593	GRC	593	593
BTC	1,497	Gulf	207	207
BTC	1,810	Harm 'A'	258	258
BTC	252	Hanson	1,785	1,785
BTC	5,532	HDC	177	177
BTC	1,028	H & C	777	777
BTC	1,075	Hill	725	725
BTC	4,041	Hotels	251	251
BTC	2,533	MI	410	410
BTC	150	ICI	655	655
BTC	213	Indigo	214	214
BTC	655	Investec	214	214
BTC	451	Kingsway	211	211
BTC	20	Land Sec	1,197	1,197
BTC	153	Laporte	785	785
BTC	1,173	LGO	278	278

## Highland up 26% in first six months

By Our City Staff

THE newly-returned buoyancy of the Scotch whisky industry after the cut in stocks has closed down a three-year diversification experiment into growing mushrooms in a former warehouse in Glasgow.

Extraordinary closure costs are estimated at £900,000. The Famous Grouse increased sales volume by 5 per cent in a contracting British market.

Export volumes also grew. The Famous Grouse account for about half of group pre-tax profits. Turnover increased by 12.6 per cent to £83.9 million. Investment and net interest income increased from £1.7 million to £2.3 million.

The interim dividend is up 26 per cent to 1.2p from a rise to 5.3p to 6.6p.

Sales of new and mature whisky to other blenders as well as further progress by its own Famous Grouse brand helped boost pre-tax profits by 26 per cent to £12.7 million in the half-year to end-February.

The interim dividend is up 26 per cent to 1.2p from a rise to 5.3p to 6.6p.

Mr Brad Bauer, the manager of institutional equity sales at Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities (Japan), said:

## Yen boosts Tokyo

Tokyo THE Nikkei index surged by 1,119.15 points, or 3.82 per cent, to 30,397.93 after advancing by 1,029.72 on Friday. But this advance, spurred by a stronger yen, may be short-lived.

The yen's rise, after the Group of Seven meeting in Paris on Saturday, was seen by Japanese institutions as an opportunity to extend last Friday's stock market rally.

Some brokers said the gains were largely artificial, based on reports in the Japanese Press that G7 had agreed to buy the yen against their own currencies directly in Tokyo and in their own countries.

The G7 finance ministers said the yen's decline was undesirable. The Bank of Japan said an estimated \$400 million in Tokyo and European central banks, including Germany's Bundesbank, sold dollars. But brokers expected this intervention to be short-lived.

(Reuters)

RECENT ISSUES

## EQUITIES

ADT Leisure (125p) 118 +2

ADG Group (14p) 101 -1

AIAS New Euro (100p) 100 -1

Analysis Hedges 205 +15

Argos PLC (100p) 205 +15

Barclays Global Emerg (100p) 100 -1

Barclays Inv 220 -1





## DUTY-FREE SHOPPING

## FOCUS

## A SPECIAL REPORT

# The losers in the single market

UK airport and ferry authorities are lobbying hard to stop the abolition of duty-free shopping between European countries in 1992, saying it will result in huge fare increases to compensate for lost income. Anthony Cox reports

Travel will become much more expensive if duty-free shopping is abolished, according to the Duty-Free Confederation (DFC), which represents duty-free dealers in the UK. It says an end to duty-free "perks" will increase ferry fares by up to 23 per cent and the cost of air tickets by at least 10 per cent.

John Douthwaite, secretary-general of the DFC, says the British Airport Authority's operational income does not cover the costs of running its airports. "It is the commercial income that makes them viable with duty-free as the real money-spinner," he says.

"An important source of income is under threat. The duty-free consumer is getting a substantial bargain, and although the provider also has a substantial profit margin, that is being ploughed back to give travellers a cheaper ticket at the end of the day."

Duty-free is now a fundamental part of the pricing structure of international travel. Mr Douthwaite says, "We just do not see any sense in removing something which has no negatives. There's no downside with duty-free. Nobody is under any obligation to buy it; there are no losers."

The threat to duty-free surfaced in 1987 with plans to permit the free movement of people and goods. In a true single market, with equal taxation among member-states, no justification could be seen for the continuance of duty-free outlets; fiscal harmony would permit travellers to carry unlimited quantities of tax-paid goods.

"It appears that in the

interests of a perfect fiscal doctrine, duty-free is illogical and has to go. The consequences of this loss — and the only justification appears to be doctrine — are so great that we have to highlight them," he says.

The Association of Suppliers to Airlines, Airports and Shipping was the first industry group to call for united opposition to the abolition of duty-free trading. The result was the DFC, which now embraces all sections of the industry.

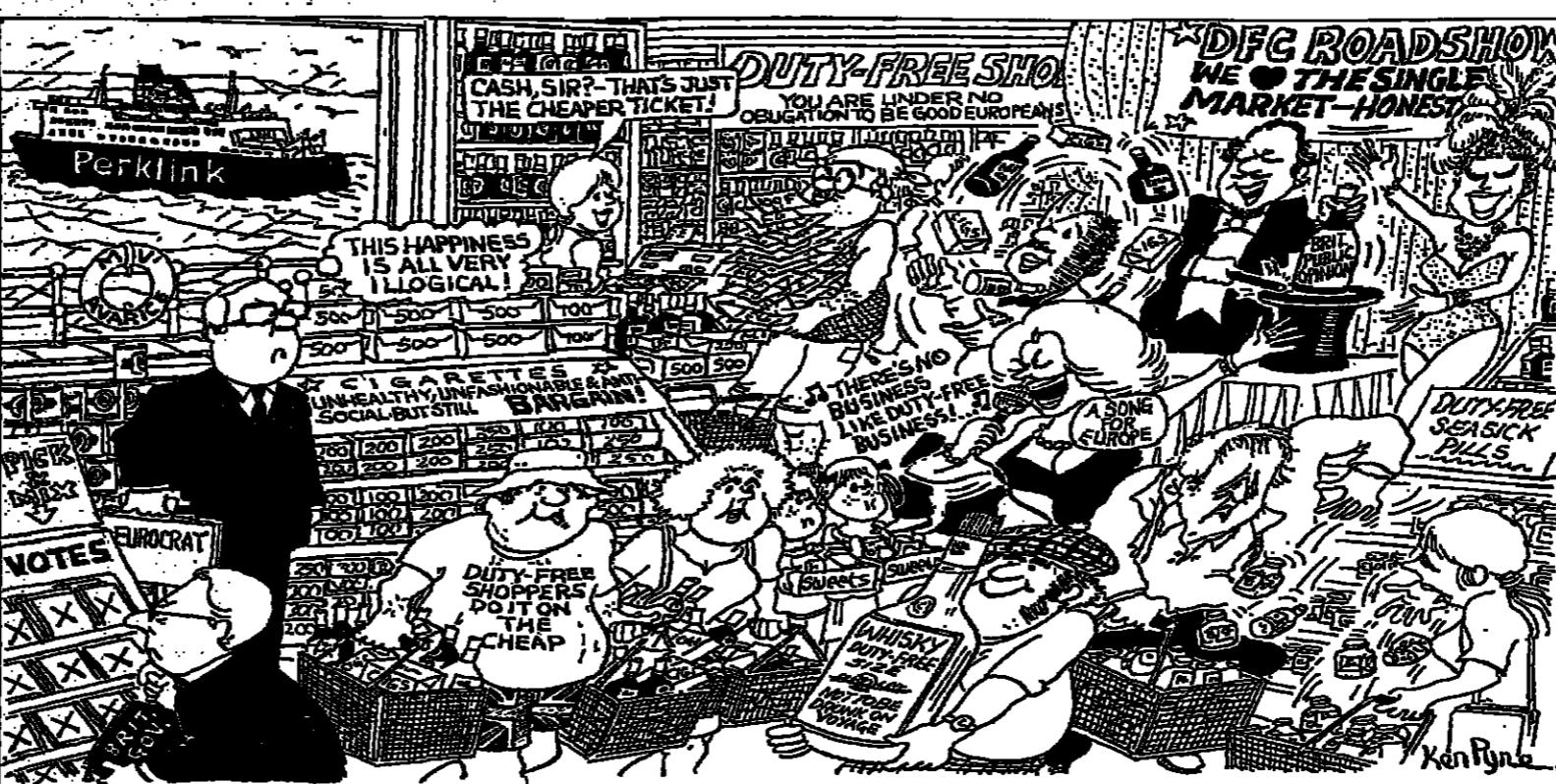
Soon after the DFC was established, the International Duty-Free Confederation (IDFC), of which the DFC is a member, was formed in Brussels. The IDFC is also supported by Scandinavian firms, particularly ferry companies.

The European Commission has become considerably more pragmatic on the issue. Christiane Scrivener, the European Commissioner for Taxation, now talks about a "compromise".

Mr Douthwaite says, "There is now a firm belief that duty-free is sufficiently important to be retained. Realistically, the prospect of a fully harmonized Europe by 1992, or whenever, is much further away than anyone had originally envisaged."

The British Government has not made its position clear on duty-free. The DFC draws some comfort from Mrs Thatcher's recent statement that she recognized the importance of the duty-free trade to the Scotch whisky industry and that the Government was ready to look at the problem.

Mr Douthwaite says the



The fighting force: from left, John Douthwaite, secretary-general of the DFC; Alan Munday, director of Gatwick Airport; Richard Owen, DFC; and Ken Ford, director of Monarch Airports

UK groups that will be affected by the changes have rallied behind the DFC

## Opposition is widespread

MORE than 30 million British travellers enjoy the duty-free "perk" every year. According to the Duty-Free Confederation (DFC), it is the British travel industry and British holiday-makers who will be hit hardest if duty-free shopping is abolished within the European Community.

British manufacturers will also suffer because they dominate sales in European duty-free shops, which therefore

become shop windows for British goods.

Independent reports by The Netherlands Economic Institute and Coopers & Lybrand have underlined the economic significance of the duty-free trade. Their findings show why all groupings involved in duty-free have rallied to the banner of the confederation to defend the status quo.

Duty-free profits from duty-free sales play a big part in maintaining profitability. In

many cases their contribution is critical in keeping low-season sailings going. This is particularly true on competitive short-haul routes across the English Channel.

Duty-free sales in Community airport shops are estimated at about £930 million a year, more than half of which relates to passengers travelling within the Community. Profits of £194 million are at risk.

There are already pressures on airport authorities to increase capacity and maintain standards. The combined effect of these pressures and lost profits would mean increased airport charges averaging 14 per cent. In Britain, however,

The number of passengers on charter and scheduled services within the Community could be reduced by up to 2.1 million

the impact is likely to be greater. The threatened increase in airport charges is between 25 and 39 per cent.

Charter and scheduled airlines notch up duty-free sales of £301 million a year in the Community. They estimate that the loss of these sales would threaten a 10 per cent increase in charter tickets and an increase of 2.8 to 3.7 per cent in inclusive tour holiday prices.

Across the Community, it is feared that the rise in holiday prices would reduce demand by 1.6 million charter passengers. It is also estimated that, on non-Community routes, lower ticket prices and the continuing availability of duty-free could lead to between 50,000 and 150,000 tourists switching from Community to non-Community destinations.

Overall, the number of passengers on charter and scheduled services within the Community could be reduced by up to 2.1 million.

Furthermore, the effect of the threatened loss of duty-free sales within the Community does not take account of the proposed application of VAT to air travel, which is likely to add another 5 to 10 per cent to air fares.

Anthony Cox



### B.A.T (U.K. and Export) Limited

B.A.T (U.K. and Export) Limited supports the aims of the International Duty Free Confederation and the National Associations in the campaign for the defence of intra community Duty Free

## We shouldn't give away Duty Free.

ASAAS, the Association of Suppliers to Airports, Airlines and Shipping, congratulates Times Newspapers on its initiative in bringing to the notice of the British public the effects of the European Commission's plan to end intra-community duty free sales in 1992.

The Association, representing leading manufacturers, sees no point nor benefit in suppressing a long-established, highly developed and booming industry, which provides jobs throughout the U.K. and which helps significantly in the financing of airports, airlines and shipping as well as subsidising travel costs for every individual who flies and sails from the U.K.

The loss of current intra-community duty and tax free business will be a serious blow for suppliers, particularly in the U.K. which is by far the largest and dominant European duty free market.

ASAAS along with other trade associations is actively engaged in lobbying Government and the European Commission. Time is running out and now is the moment for the British public to register its own protest at the loss of its traditional rights and the imposition of substantially increased travel costs by writing to local MP's and MEP's in Brussels.

Association of Suppliers to Airlines, Airports & Shipping



Hine  
Isle of Jura  
J & B  
Jack Daniel  
Jim Beam  
John Player  
John Smith  
Johnnie Walker  
Kahlua  
King Edward  
Krug  
Lagerfeld  
Lambert & Butler  
Lambs Navy  
Longs  
Lanson  
Laphroaig  
Long John  
Malibu  
Marlboro  
Martell  
Martini Rossi  
Metaxa  
Montine  
Mumm  
Orlone  
Otar  
Pernod  
Peter Stuyvesant  
Pimm's  
Polignac  
Remy Martin  
Rothmans  
Sandeman  
Schweppes  
Silk Cut  
Skol  
Smirnoff  
Sobranie  
Stella Artois  
Superkings  
Tanqueray  
Teachers  
Vladivar  
Whitbread  
White Horse  
White Satin  
Whyte & Mackay  
Willem II  
William Grant  
William Lawson  
Winston

Lock of space means many members are not listed here.

## Toll on tourism

BRUSSELS is embarked on a "veritable orgy of regulatory programmes", Charles Powell, scheduled services director of Air Europe, told delegates attending the *International Herald Tribune's* duty-free seminar in London last week.

"The airline industry alone is now being assailed with 18 different bits of legislation or regulations from Brussels," he said. He claimed that these proposals, which included the abolition of duty-free sales, would restrict the development of the travel and tourism industries if they were enacted and would have "frightening consequences" for tourism to and within the European Community (Anthony Cox writes).

Mr Powell said: "The Netherlands Economic Institute reckoned that up to 150,000 people would be lost to Community destinations if duty-free was to be curtailed. This understates the situation. New air fares introduced since the institute reported have already widened the market and this new price-sensitive business is very threatened."

He said the Community's loss would be the gain of the "quasi-Community" countries. Fewer people would ski in France. More would go to Austria and Switzerland — and those countries would gain the jobs and the investment in resorts that the Community member-states would lose.

"Countries like Morocco, Tunisia, Malta, Cyprus and Turkey have only to double their duty-free allowances and they will put themselves well ahead of the game," said Mr Powell, whose company arranges holidays for about 2.5 million people every year.

"You only have to see how modest changes in European exchange rates quickly result in changes to holiday destinations to see that the end of the duty-free bargain on intra-Community routes could have the same effect."

Mr Powell challenged the Eurocratic view that the travel industry's fears were ill-founded. "You have only to look at a flow chart of my group's major tourist flows to see that the regulators are wrong. For every country to which there is a major flow, there is another nearby outside the grip of Brussels."

## DUTY-FREE SHOPPING/2

## FOCUS

## Boarding up the gold mine

Duty-free sales account for about twenty per cent of BAA's annual revenue, reports Harvey Elliott

Once past the long and often debilitating queues at airport check-ins and security, most airline passengers have one thought on their minds — the duty-free shop.

The glittering array of goods on sale in the open-plan shops, which now dominate the departure lounges of most airports, acts like a magnet to all kinds of travellers.

BAA, formerly the British Airports Authority, has realized just how important this is and is steadily increasing the amount of space set aside for duty-free and tax-free sales. Five per cent of the terminal area is now given over to these outlets.

And despite the occasional complaint from airlines that the airport authorities are concentrating more on retailing than on looking after the airlines' interests by getting passengers on board as quickly and painlessly as possible, the fact is that 5 per cent of space creates between 15 and 20 per cent of BAA's revenue — well over £100 million a year out of an income of £641 million.

At Heathrow's Terminal Two, from which most of the European flights originate, the duty and tax-free shop has the highest turnover per sq ft of any retail outlet in Britain, beating even the always crowded Marks and Spencer store at Marble Arch, central London.

Duty-free sales are similarly important for airports throughout the world, with Honolulu heading the league table in total sales.

Once the fiscal harmony being pursued by the European Community is introduced in 1992, however, much of this enormous gold mine could be forced to close down as intra-European sales — which now account for half the duty-free income at BAA airports — is outlawed.

It is a prospect which is



Opportunities to save: perfume sales from Heathrow Airport amount to 13 per cent of the entire British market

causing growing concern to airports throughout Europe.

They argue that well over £900 million worth of sales are made each year at EC airport shops, of which about 56 per cent comes from passengers travelling within the Community.

If they are forced to give this up, they say, this will mean a loss of £194 million a year in profits, based on last year's sales, or an estimated £251 million within the next five years.

#### AIRPORT DUTY-FREE PRICES (£)

	Cigarettes 200 Marlboro	Whisky 1 litre J. Walker	Unswept Cigarettes	Perfume Chanel No. 5
London (LHR)	8.50	7.90	11.95	30.45
Paris (CDG)	7.25	6.17	8.33	29.90
Frankfurt	7.94	6.61	8.80	27.90
Rome	6.92	5.72	7.32	29.05
Amsterdam	7.13	6.61	8.08	28.11
Shannon	7.92	6.90	10.57	25.00
Brussels	7.40	6.02	8.70	25.70
Basle	7.30	6.54	10.00	25.00

Source: Euromonitor

The only way of recouping this loss, according to most experts, is to increase other charges by an average of 14 per cent. If increases in charges were limited to intra-European traffic — as seems only fair — then it is estimated that airport charges would have to rise throughout the EC by an average of 31 per cent.

It is worrying not only to the major airports. Luton Airport's director, David Bates, says that his airport — with 85 per cent of its flights going to

entirely voluntary contribution to the finances of the airport," he says.

These cash helps to provide

additional facilities which are

constantly needed to keep the

airport at the forefront of the

world's travel centres and any

loss of revenue would have to

be compensated for by in-

creased charges elsewhere.

If this was kept to Euro-

pean flights only, Mr

Mimms says, it would

mean an increase in

charges of around 35 per cent — the equivalent of 2.5 per

cent to scheduled air fares and

even more for charter

operations.

Such an increase, he pre-

dicts, would result in a drop in

the number of people flying

from Gatwick by about

300,000 a year, resulting in a

further squeeze on revenue.

At Heathrow, passengers

buy 520 million cigarettes, 13

million cigars, 31 tons of pipe

and cigarette tobacco and 6.1

million bottles of liquor each

year.

For years the traditional

duty-free purchases of ciga-

rettes and spirits accounted for the bulk of the sales, but recently there has been an upsurge in the sale of perfume and tax-free products, as the airport, together with others throughout the world, takes steps to minimize the potential effects of the loss of duty-free sales within Europe.

Perfume sales at Heathrow, for example, now amount to 13 per cent of the entire UK market. Some airports greatly reduce their own "cut" of duty-free profits to the absolute minimum in order to encourage airlines to land there — Dubai, for example, has probably the world's cheapest duty-free shop, in a bid to attract stop-over flights.

BAA has, however, decided on a policy of trying to woo as many customers as possible — yet still ensure a healthy profit.

Whisky, vodka and rum, for example, are sold at 40 per cent less than the average high-street price. Brandy is sold at a discount of 35 per cent while champagne, port and sherry is sold at 20 per cent less. Cigarettes have 40 per cent knocked off while cigars and pipe tobacco are reduced by 20 per cent.

Investigators employed by BAA regularly tour rival outlets to ensure that the companies granted the concession to operate the duty-free shops stick to the rules.

It means that a litre bottle of Pernod's Grouse Whisky sells for £7.50 at the airport compared with the average high-street price of £12.57. Gordon's Gin costs £6.65 compared with £11.15, and a Courvoisier VSOP brandy can be bought for £18.85 instead of £31.49.

They are the kinds of savings irresistible to most passengers and which appear to make everyone the winner — except perhaps the Inland Revenue and the bureaucrats in Brussels.

## Dilemma of dogma

ABOLITION of duty-free shopping is a question of dogma, says Willem Maes, chairman of the Brussels-based International Duty-Free Confederation (IDFC). "Why should the normally intelligent officials of the European Commission feel it necessary to suppress a thriving industry that gives pleasure to many, provides a considerable number of jobs and keeps travel costs down?" he asked at *The International Herald Tribune* duty-free seminar in London last week.

Mr Maes said "dogma" was the reason. "The removal of frontier controls by the end of 1992 is seen not only in practical terms, but as a symbol of the removal of barriers separating one European nation from another. Hence, some argue that anything which seems to accentuate the fact that a community citizen is moving from one country to another within Europe should no longer exist," he said.

Mr Maes said this view was "ridiculous". There would continue to be considerable cultural and other differences between EC countries after 1992, and it was unacceptable that an industry as important as duty-free should be sacrificed for "mere doctrinal reasons".

A study commissioned by the IDFC from The Netherlands' Economic Institute showed that total tax-free duty-free turnover in 1988 in the EC was an estimated 2.2 billion European Currency Units (ECU), twice as much as the EC will spend on salaries this year. The total income generated by intra-EC sales was about 700 million ECU.

Further, the duty-free industry contributed to the creation of thousands of jobs in retailing, distribution and production. Jobs in duty and tax-free retail outlets alone was estimated at 7,200.

Mr Maes said the EC's "main problem" was with control. "Duty-free at present is kept within clear limits in terms of volume or value. Control lies with customs officials, who, if the EC is successful in its endeavours, will no longer be present at frontier posts after 1992.

"There is no doubt that if every citizen were able to go out every day to buy unlimited quantities of goods without paying VAT or excise duties, there would be considerable implications for the national exchequers of individual countries."

He said that supporters of duty-free would need to tackle the problem of control, and that the IDFC was working on plans for a system of control at the point of sale, which the industry would

## Crews lose an 'important perk'

On-board sales are part of the huge revenue generated by duty-free, with a percentage of the takings usually going to the cabin staff

Airline cabin crews like nothing better than to be rostered for charter holiday flights to Faro, in Portugal. For some reason that destination, more than any other within the Economic Community, attracts high-spending "punters" who like to stock up with duty-free alcohol and tobacco, both on the way out and back. As on almost all charter and scheduled airline flights, the crew gets about 5 per cent of the takings to share among themselves. Stewards and stewardesses consider it an important "perk". It is also a vital source of revenue for the airlines which, on both scheduled and charter operations, earned about £301 million in duty and tax-free sales on board last year. Charter airlines alone accounted for £190 million of this, of which £150 million was spent by passengers travelling within the EC.

Airlines have united in support of the concession. British charter operators predict that the cost of a charter flight will rise by about 10 per cent and a holiday package deal by around 3 per cent if they are forbidden from selling duty-free goods on board their flights.

They also fear that as many as 150,000 tourists a year could change their holiday destinations to non-EC countries, such as Turkey, Switzerland and Cyprus. These countries will not be affected by the harmonization of taxes within the EC and will continue to offer duty-free trading.

Charter airlines benefit most from on-board duty-free sales. Within the EC, 69 per cent of international air travellers fly on charters. More than 80 per cent of all UK-originating international air passengers travel for leisure.

The biggest charter carrier, Britannia, flew seven million passengers a total of 13.5 billion kilometres on its fleet of 42 jets last year from 16 airports in the UK and 130 abroad. About 90 per cent of this total was within the EC.

Like all charter carriers, Britannia works on small profit margins. Any loss in revenue is felt immediately. Its passengers spent an average of £4



A less: Bob Parker-Eaton



Racking the flight: hostesses also oppose abolition of duty-free

"Abolition of duty-free will make package holidays more expensive and, therefore, weaken the EC travel market," Mr Ford says. "The industry works on tight profit margins and the loss would have to be passed on to the holidaymaker."

He says travellers view duty-free shopping as part of their overall holiday — 87 per cent buy some duty-free item, spending an average of £15.

#### MARKET SHARES BY VALUES AT EC AIRPORTS AND BY CHARTER AIRLINES

Category	Airports	Percentages	Airports and charter airlines
	Charter airlines	Airports	Charter airlines
Perfume	27	40	29
Alcoholic drinks	25	22	24
Tobacco	22	21	22
Photographic and electrical	7	1	6
Fashion	6	1	6
Food	5	3	4
Jewellery and watches	4	6	5
Other	4	4	4

Source: Euromonitor & Lycett's Delphis

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OF SERIOUS DISEASES

Health Departments' Chief Medical Officers

# Tide will turn on ferry profitability

Water-transport fares are set to rise and less popular routes could be abandoned if abolition of duty-free goes ahead, writes Malcolm Brown

Ferry passengers could find themselves paying much higher fares and even losing some services during the winter if the duty-free allowance is abolished. The economics of passenger ferries means that a loss of duty-free revenues would knock a hole in their finances, say the operators — one which they could not make up from other paying services from the customer. The only alternative would be a fare increase.

The Duty-Free Confederation, which represents all sections of the tax-free trade, says that seven ferry companies operating from the UK had combined duty-free sales of about £160 million in 1987, the last year for which figures are available. The operators say that duty-free sales amount to 62 per cent of all on-board sales and contribute an average of nearly 18 per cent to total revenues.

The groups which would be affected by any change in the duty-free rules include UK-based lines such as P & O,

Sealink and Sally Line, and foreign-operated companies such as Brittany Ferries and the Orlan Line.

Duty-free sales have become an important part of ferry companies' income over the years, says David Asprey, manager of home-shipping policy for the General Council of British Shipping, which represents shipping interests in the confederation.

"It varies in importance in terms of proportion of their total income from 12 per cent on some of the longer-haul routes, which are bringing in more money from other sorts of on-board facilities, such as cabins and restaurants, to as much as 25 per cent, maybe even 30 per cent on some of the short-haul routes, particularly Dover-Calais, Dover-Boulogne, where we are talking of a 90-minute trip."

"The scope for doing many different things with passengers is rather limited if you are not selling cabins and those sorts of services."

The ability to sell duty free has become a critical factor in



A major revenue earner: UK ferry companies say on-board duty-free sales account for 18 per cent of income

the economic viability of short sea routes. Mr Asprey says, particularly in the winter season when the proportion of income which comes from duty-free sales is much higher.

"The number of passengers is much smaller. The lines use duty-free to encourage people to travel. They reduce the fare — sometimes through promotional

fares to very low amounts, £5 or £10 — because they can achieve further sales from duty-free or restaurants or gaming machines in order to provide sufficient income to maintain that service through the low season."

"Fares would have to go up if the duty-free concession was removed," Mr Asprey says. "There are alternative revenue earners, but none of them could make up for the loss of duty-free sales."

"There has been much talk of turning ships into floating hyper-markets and boutiques, but it is doubtful whether some of those activities would attract passengers and it is certainly true that none of

them could achieve the profit margins which duty-free shops can provide at the moment. So whatever the ferry companies did in terms of finding alternative sources of income, there would be major increases in fares."

"The argument which duty-free operators have been putting to politicians and

Whitehall is that even if customs controls go, there is no intrinsic reason why the duty-free allowance has to also go. The allowance certainly needs to be policed, otherwise it would be abused, but there are other ways of policing in the absence of customs officers."

One in which shippers are particularly interested is the system operating in Scandinavia. Sales to passengers embarking at ports in Finland, Sweden, Denmark or Norway are policed by the sellers of the goods.

"They have been operating this system for many years now," Mr Asprey says. "The duty-free shop seller restricts the volume that he sells to the passenger. That is backed up by accounting systems satisfactory to the tax authorities of the four countries which effectively controls how much the passenger can arrive at a port with."

Michael Aiken, passenger services director of Sealink British Ferries, says the British would certainly be prepared to operate the vendor control system.

"In fact we are suggesting that at the moment as a way of doing it," he says.

"It would be wrong to whip away a crucial part of the ferry business in a bureaucratic stroke," Mr Aiken says. It is a fundamental part of what the ferries are, because as fundamental as the agencies which handle things other over and above the provision of rooms.

The abolition of duty-free allowances is not the only threat from Brussels. They are also concerned about suggestions that VAT may be applied to passenger fares and to ships' fuel.

The legislators must take account of the differing natures of the countries involved in the Community, Mr Aiken says. Impositions such as these would make no difference at all to the movement of goods between Germany and France, for example, but would have an immense impact on countries like the UK.

"The view we take," Mr Aiken says, "is that in making European legislative changes it is very important that the individual characteristics of the member states are recognized, particularly the sea frontier nations."

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Source: Hargreaves Ltd Price Survey of representative UK High Street stores conducted during Oct '89.

## Open borders threaten trade

As 1992 draws near, suppliers are faced with a challenge for effective marketing

Tobacco products are estimated to account for between 25 and 40 per cent of the total turnover of duty-free trade in the European Community.

Yet, according to Paul Bingham, marketing manager for British American Tobacco, "tobacco has an importance greater than that indicated by its proportion of turnover, because the price savings generate a customer flow and act as an incentive to a shopper to purchase goods in duty-free outlets."

Duty-free tobacco is an integral part of the duty-free business and the tobacco suppliers have been at the forefront of the fight to prevent the premature abolition of the duty-free perk.

"We have consistently put forward the argument that the key issue is not 1992, but the completion of the internal market. The current signs are that the EC has foregone 1992 as a target date by which all elements of the internal market will be implemented. In particular, harmonization of indirect taxation and excise duties will almost certainly not be achieved by that date," Mr Bingham told delegates attending the International Herald Tribune's duty-free seminar in London last week.

The real threat to the Community duty-free is that 'open borders' and the removal of customs officers from national frontiers will be used as a justification for the termination of duty-free. Open borders are not the same as the creation of the internal market because widely divergent tax-induced price differences will remain beyond 1993."

Mr Bingham added that duty-free tobacco sales accounted for less than 2 per cent of all EC tobacco sales in volume. He also said that duty-free shoppers did not buy on an occasional or impulse basis and that if duty-free were to be abolished, tobacco purchases would simply be transferred to the duty-paid market.

The challenge to tobacco suppliers is really a challenge to the overall duty-free industry, because tobacco contributes a very significant proportion of the industry's profits," he said.

"Duty-free is the shop window for many high-quality European products with considerable 'upgrading' by shippers. Should duty-free

disappear, the challenge to all suppliers is the problem of effectively marketing these products." Mr Bingham added that European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members would follow the EC's lead, and that Eastern Europe posed a "critical question".

"Eastern European countries will almost certainly regard duty-free as a significant incentive to attract tourism and to derive hard-currency earnings," he said.

Of the challenge to alcohol beverage suppliers from the abolition of duty-free shopping, Donald Cox, president of Allied-Lyons International Brands, says: "We shall all have to be ashamed of ourselves in the alcohol beverage business if we do not do everything possible to protect and enhance a business which represents, if we lose, a Scotch whisky market equal in size to the West German domestic market."

According to Nicholas Ratte, the export director of Parfums Jean Patou, perfume manufacturers also stand to lose from the loss of duty-free shopping.

"Luxury goods are by definition superfluous to our daily lives. International travel environments are, therefore, ideal places to attract this type of consumer," he says.

"In 1988, total world sales of duty-free perfume and cosmetics amounted to \$2.7 billion, which is a record-breaking increase of 20 per cent."

"A little over half of these perfume sales is generated by European shops and \$702 million is estimated to come from sales to intra-European travellers."

Mr Ratte, estimating the average loss in sales to a perfume house of EC duty-free business at about 6.25 per cent, said that he could not "see the perfume manufacturers crossing out 6.25 per cent of their selective distribution market when every single per cent counts in the race for turnover."

Mr Ratte added: "We must continue to differentiate between domestic and duty-free business and international tax paid or tax-free business. If we can do this and at the same time manage within the confines of EC law, then we can look forward to 1993 and beyond with confidence."

— Anthony Cox

Continued From  
Page 10

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

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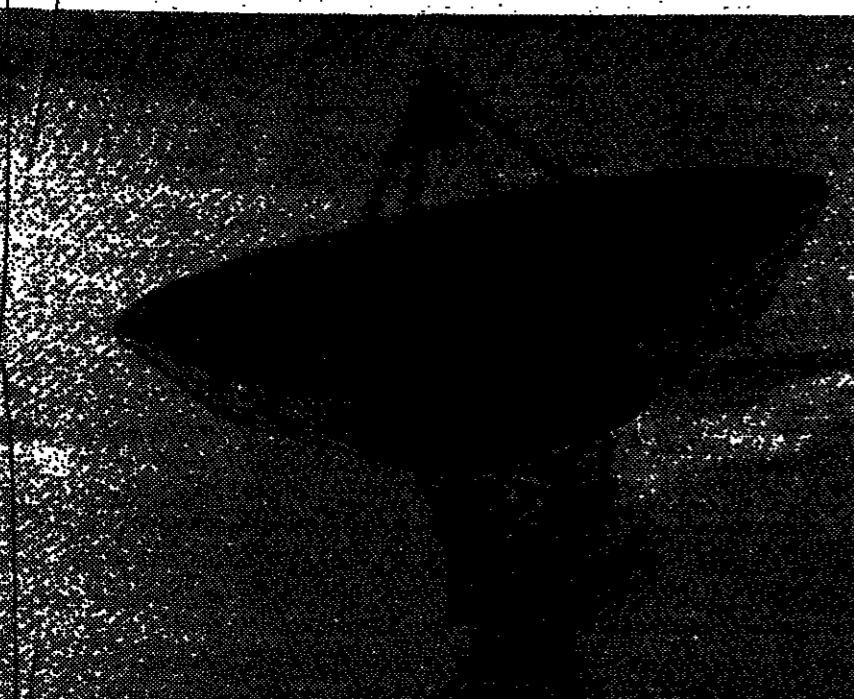
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## THE LAW

# 'Pack the judges off to jail'

It is hardly surprising that inmates of local prisons, built by Victorians and little altered since, demonstrate their discontent when one considers the comparative material improvements in living conditions enjoyed by those at liberty. Where does the blame lie?

Much must rest with those responsible for sending people to prison. If, perhaps, sentencers were more aware of prison conditions and their wider effects, they would be more susceptible to Government exhortations to use imprisonment only as a genuine last resort for those awaiting trial and as a punishment.

English courts imprison more people proportionately than most of their European counterparts, and for longer periods. Thus, unless courts can be persuaded to use custody less, chronic overcrowding – acknowledged to be the main factor contributing to the appalling conditions which exist in all but the most modern local prisons – will remain.

Attempts to persuade sentencers, through Green and White Papers and associated legislation, that non-custodial options offer viable and sensible alternatives to imprisonment is part of the sol-



**Anthony Heaton-Armstrong on a remedy for bad prison conditions**

It will, it is hoped, point the way towards a reduced use of custody for the 75 per cent or so of offenders awaiting trial (or convicted) of what Paul Cavafin of the National Council for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders terms "acquisitive offences" – largely burglary and theft.

But as well as these initiatives, it is becoming increasingly accepted that, as an additional spur, sentencers should become better acquainted with the nature of imprisonment and its impact on the prisoner and his or her family and associates.

Until 1979, when the Judicial Studies Board was created, formalized judicial training was a

novel concept. Previously, newly appointed judges were not encouraged to visit prisons, although some did, seeing this as part of their wider duties. Even now, prison governors confirm that prison visits by judges are comparatively rare.

Occasionally, an individual will take an extreme view of his role: in 1972 Lord Kilbrandon, the late Scottish law lord, suggested judges might consider refusing to send someone to a prison where the conditions resulted in mental, physical or moral degradation, since this would involve them in acting beyond their powers.

The training for new judges, invariably part-time on first appointment, follows their appointment, which is unusual for professionals. It comprises three and a half days in-house training, including a mock trial and lectures on sentencing practice, a week observing an experienced judge at work, a visit to the probation service, and also to at least one prison service establishment.

But there is no requirement to satisfy the Lord Chancellor before sitting that they are adequately informed about prison conditions or the social pressures on those who appear before them. There

is no reading list, no recommended courses of instruction in criminology, simply a broad assumption that in their experience as practitioners and through their one visit to a prison they will have picked up enough knowledge to decide whether the defendant is, in the words of Sir Frederick Lawton, the retired Lord Justice of Appeal, "mad, sad or bad", either deserving of a "last chance" or, perhaps, a long sentence.

It is only recently that judges



Official view: The Government wants judges to use imprisonment only as a genuine last resort

have been actively encouraged to see for themselves what imprisonment is all about on a more regular and scientific basis.

This may have been precipitated by the appointment of

Stephen Tunnin, a judge, as Chief Inspector of Prisons. He emphasizes the benefit that can follow from prison visits. And Sir Robin Auld, the High Court judge who chairs the Criminal Committee of the Judicial Studies Board, states:

"The board encourages judges to visit their local establishments to familiarize themselves with the regimes there and recognizes the beneficial effects that such visits can have on staff morale." The board's chairman, Lord Justice Glidewell, recently wrote to the circuits reiterating this.

A panel of prison governors has been drawn up to provide those

attending judicial sentencing semi-

inars with further insights into prison conditions, from the "horses' mouths".

There are practical difficulties, not least those of time and money.

Judge release days – days out of

court for training purposes negoti-

ated with the Lord Chancellor's

Department – do not allow judges

to occupy their paid sitting days

with visits to prisons. These must

take place either in their free time

or when an "early" day at court

allows them to arrange a visit at

short notice. Organized visits, for

a group of judges, tend to become

somewhat sanitized affairs, affording

little or no realistic view of

what actually goes on.

Mr Justice Auld stresses the ad-

vice weapon in the sentencing armoury.

• The author is a practising barrister

and has been a prison visitor at

Wormwood Scrubs, west London, for

17 years.

Mr Justice Auld stresses the ad-

## Law Report April 10 1990 Queen's Bench Divisional Court

### Extending law of blasphemy would be likely to do more harm than good

Regina v Bow Street Magistrates Court, Ex parte Choudhury

Before Lord Justice Watkins, Lord Justice Smith and Mr Justice Roch (Judgment April 9)

The law of blasphemy did not extend to religions other than Christianity. The law was not uncertain and the mere fact that it was anomalous or even unjust did not justify the court in changing it.

Even were it open to the court to extend the law to cover religions other than Christianity, it would remain from doing so. It would be virtually impossible by judicial decision to set sufficiently clear limits to the offence. Extending the law of blasphemy would pose insuperable problems and would be likely to do more harm than good.

The European Convention on Human Rights did not demand of the United Kingdom the creation of a law of blasphemy for the protection of Islam.

The offence of seditious libel demanded not only proof of an intention to promote feelings of ill-will and hostility between different classes of her Majesty's subjects but also proof of an incitement to violence or resistance or defiance of disturbing constituted authority.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court had rejected an application by Abdul Hussain Choudhury for judicial review of the refusal of Sir David Hopkin, Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, on March 13, 1989 to grant summonses against Salman Rushdie, author of, and Viking Penguin Publishing Ltd, publishers of *The Satanic Verses*, for the common law offence of blasphemous libel and seditious libel.

Mr Ali Mohammed Azhar for the applicant, Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr David Pannick for Viking Penguin, Mr Geoffrey Robertson, QC, Mr Edward Fitzgerald and Mr Keir Starmer Page as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said there could be little doubt that the contents of *The Satanic Verses* had deeply offended many law abiding Muslims who were United Kingdom citizens.

The purpose of the alleged blasphemous libel included describing God as "the destroyer of Man", vilifying the prophet Abraham, referring to Mohammed as Mahomed, vilifying Mohammed's wives and companions and vilifying and ridiculing the teachings of Islam as containing too many rules and seeking to control every aspect of day-to-day life.

Mr Lester had submitted on a preliminary point that the Divisional Court would not grant judicial review of the decision of a magistrate which was made in the lawful, even if erroneous, exercise of his judgment and discretion.

In their Lordships' opinion, the magistrate must exercise judicially his discretion whether to issue a summons.

The magistrate's decision had been based on his ruling that the law of blasphemy in England and Wales protected only the Christian religion.

For that reason, Mr Azhar had submitted that blasphemy extended beyond Christianity to Judaism. However, it was clear from many passages in the report that it was only because it was an attack on the Christian religion that an attack on the Old Testament was indicable.

The most explicit statement of the law was to be found in *Gathercole's Case* (1838) 2

Lewin 237, Baron Alderson had directed the jury that:

"A man may, without being liable to prosecution for it, attack Judaism, or Mahomedanism, or even any sect of the Christian religion (save the established religion of the country); and the only reason why that latter is in a different situation from the others is, because it is the form established by law, and is therefore a part of the constitution of the country."

Mr Azhar had submitted that the decision in *Gathercole* had been reversed two years later in *Hetherington* (1840) 4 State Trials (NS) 563, where the master complained of related solely to the Old Testament and the defendant was convicted.

That submission was based on a misconception, Lord Denman had said in *Hetherington* that the decisive ground was that the "Old Testament is so connected with the New that it is impossible that such a publication as this could be altered without reflecting upon Christianity itself".

By the middle of the nineteenth century, no doubt as a result of the revolution in thought brought about by Darwin and others, the essential elements of the offence were beginning to change.

It was no longer blasphemous to make a sober reasoned attack on the Christian religion, it had to be a scurrilous vilification of that religion, without the shift of policy seemed to ignore the fact that reason and sober discussion were likely to have a greater determining effect on religion than scurrilous insults.

The change was firmly established by the time of *R v Ramsey and Fode* (1883) 15 Cox CC 231. His Lordship did not accept Mr Azhar's contention that that case was authority for extending the law beyond Christianity.

In *Bowman v Secular Society* (1917) AC 406 the House of Lords were clearly dealing with the offence only in relation to Christianity.

That was a civil case, and there had since been only two blasphemy prosecutions. In *R v Goff* (1922) 16 Cr App R 87, Mr Justice Ayrton's direction to the jury contained the words "desecrations of sacred persons or objects". Mr Azhar had submitted that those went wider than Christianity. In the court's judgment they did not.

"In my judgment, therefore, the offence of blasphemous libel is not an offence when the words published are only concerning God, Christ or the Christian religion in terms so scurrilous, abusive or offensive as to outrage the feelings of any member of, or sympathiser with, the Christian religion and would tend to lead to a breach of the peace,"

"I would be prepared to extend the definition to cover similar attacks on some other religion, as we have now become a multi-religion state, but it is not necessary for me to go so far for the purpose of the present case."

If that was intended to be a statement of the existing law it was, in their Lordships' view, plainly wrong, as was clear from the report of the case in the Court of Appeal (1979) 1 QB 10 and the House of Lords (1979) AC 617.

Apart from the *dictum* of Judge King-Hamilton, the authority of the case law was all one way. Their Lordships had no doubt that as the law now stood, it did not extend to religions other than Christianity.

Mr Azhar had submitted that it could and should be extended to cover other religions on the ground that it was anomalous and unjust to discriminate in favour of one religion.

In their Lordships' judgment where the law was clear it was not the proper function of the court to "extend" it; that was particularly so in criminal cases where offences could not be retrospectively created. In those circumstances it was for Parliament alone to change the law.

A number of unsuccessful attempts had been made in the past to change the law in Parliament. In 1985 the majority of the Law Commission had recommended that the offence of blasphemy be abolished.

Their Lordships thought it right to say that had it been open to them to extend the law to cover religions other than Christianity they would have retained it doing so.

Consideration of public policy was extremely difficult and complex. It would be virtually impossible by judicial direction to set sufficiently clear limits to the offence and other problems involved were formidable.

Among other matters considered was whether to be given to the kinds of religion to be protected and how a religion might be defined. Although an English jury might be expected or certainly had been in the last century, to understand the terms of Christianity, that would not be so for other religions.

Expert evidence would be needed, no doubt on both sides. If different sects of the same religion had differing views and the published material scandalised one sect and not another, how would the matter be decided?

Since the only material element in the offence was to make a scurrilous attack on the Christian religion, it had to be a scurrilous vilification of that religion, without the shift of policy seemed to ignore the fact that reason and sober discussion were likely to have a greater determining effect on religion than scurrilous insults.

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Apart from the *dictum* of Judge King-Hamilton, the authority of the case law was all one way. Their Lordships had no doubt that as the law now stood, it did not extend to religions other than Christianity.

Mr Azhar had submitted that it could and should be extended to cover other religions on the ground that it was anomalous and unjust to discriminate in favour of one religion.

In their Lordships' judgment where the law was clear it was not the proper function of the court to "extend" it; that was particularly so in criminal cases where offences could not be retrospectively created. In those circumstances it was for Parliament alone to change the law.

A number of unsuccessful attempts had been made in the past to change the law in Parliament. In 1985 the majority of the Law Commission had recommended that the offence of blasphemy be abolished.

Their Lordships thought it right to say that had it been open to them to extend the law to cover religions other than Christianity they would have retained it doing so.

Lord Kilbrandon, the late law lord, suggested judges might consider refusing to send someone to a jail where conditions resulted in mental, physical or moral degradation, since this would involve them in acting beyond their powers'.

Advantages of informal visits by individuals with the chance of more relaxed chats with inmates and staff unimpeded by the spotlight.

It would be trite to suggest that regular visits to prisons by judges would provide a comprehensive panacea to prison overcrowding, but it is at least clear that those responsible for training and re-training sentencers now accept that more informed and up-to-date knowledge of the prison system, its occupants and the broader effects of imprisonment is a useful weapon in the sentencing armoury.

• The author is a practising barrister and has been a prison visitor at Wormwood Scrubs, west London, for 17 years.

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#### BANKING

## THE LAW

## Hustle and hassle in the Lords

The Courts and Legal Services Bill has now completed its passage through the House of Lords. This passage, and the period of consultation on the proposals beforehand, has been marked by a timetable of inordinate haste, effectively inhibiting proper debate.

The Bill's principal provisions conflict with the recommendations (accepted by the Government) of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, which reported in 1979 after three years of evidence and consultations.

By contrast, the Bill followed proposals in the Green Paper of early 1989, which were based on no evidence or consultation: they were mere extractions from departmental entrails. In stodgy terms, they were by the Department of Trade and Industry out of the Lord Chancellor's department.

Although more than 40 members put their names down to speak on the second reading (others refraining in view of the numbers), only one day was allotted for debate. In spite of curtailment of speeches, however, the debate did not end until nearly midnight.

The advantage to the Government of cramping debate into one day is that criticism is compacted and media coverage halved.

Under standing orders, 14 days must elapse between the second reading, which took place on December 11, 1989, and the Committee stage (essential to allow amendment to be considered and drafted). The first Committee day

was fixed for January 16, 1990. There were thus only three sitting days between second reading and Committee, of which one was the day the House rose and another the day it reassembled. The rest was Christmas recess, when members were dispersed. This arrangement hardly complied with the spirit of standing orders, though it did with their letter. And, after all, it is the letter that killeth. When a spate of Government amendments descended

ed on the House last October, the Opposition leader protested that its private members tend to be elderly (like those of most second chambers) and unsalaried (unusual in this respect). Excessive loads of Government business and late hours are apt to stodgy critics. The Government can retain a majority based on a "pay vote" of ministers. This power was used implacably. When it came to Committee discussion, originally only four days were allotted. This

was so ludicrously inadequate that, reluctantly, two extra days were successively conceded. Even so, on only one day did the Committee rise before 10.30pm; on three it was forced to sit past midnight, the last being until nearly 3.00am.

At the Report stage, only three days were allotted, though the Government itself tabled 150 amendments – well over half – including six new clauses and two new schedules. The House, despite protests

from all parts, was forced to sit until 11.17pm, 10.45pm and 12.28am.

On only one occasion was there an important debate before a reasonably full House at a reasonable hour. This was on the continuation of the so-called "cab-rank rule", of fundamental constitutional moment, by which an advocate is not permitted to pick and choose his clients, but must undertake the defence of any cause, however unpopular or suspect.

Voting on the amendment was carried against the Government by 99 to 92.

The Government was not again going to risk a full debate before a full House. The third reading followed hard on Report, so fast that the Lord Chancellor himself did not have time to table all the amendments he contemplated. The Government again tabled the majority of amendments, 40 out of 67. The full debate on the Bill, as finally shaped, therefore took place on the motion "that the Bill do now pass".

Even Government supporters, even supporters of the Bill, pleaded that the debate should be at a reasonable hour before a reasonably full house. The Government was unmoved. The debate started at 11.00pm. Although most speeches were perfunctory or truncated, it did not end till 12.15am.

What is there about this Bill that debate on it should have to be thus stifled or muffled?

• The author was a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary from 1971 to 1977.

## INNS AND OUTS

From September the secrets of the school records will be opened for the first time to parents and older pupils under the Education Reform Act 1988. The change in the law was prompted during the committee stage of the Access to Personal Files Bill, and will apply to manual records held in local education authority schools, grant-maintained schools and special schools. The rules have been criticized, however, for a lack of clarity as to what constitutes a "record", and for failing to provide sufficiently for conflicts of interest.

The rules contemplate that school records might contain confidential information about a pupil's home background; even confidences from a pupil to a teacher on matters of which parents have no knowledge. While the teacher might feel it appropriate to record matters like this, particularly if they have affected the pupil's academic performance, there may be problems if parents request access to the records.

The existing rules do not offer teachers much guidance and could result in teachers recording as little confidential information as possible in order to avoid conflicts.

The arrival in Britain last year of hundreds of Kurdish refugees fleeing alleged persecution in Turkey presented law centres in north London with a range of urgent and complex problems. The South Islington Law Centre's annual report, published this month, describes how the Kurds had to deal simultaneously with the inability to speak English, scepticism about their refugee status from the Home Office, homelessness, unemployment and hostility from local residents.

The centre's immigration, housing and employment units all became involved; the immigration unit, for example, has sought a judicial review on a decision to return a Kurdish couple to Turkey, and has joined forces with the Kurdish Refugees Legal Group, which comprises, among others, solicitors in private practice, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the United Kingdom Immigration Advisory Service and the Medical Aid Foundation, which offers treatment to victims of torture.

The housing unit had to deal with the Government's unwillingness to assist Islington Council financially in finding accommodation for Kurds assessed by the council as homeless. Meanwhile, some private landlords, with whom many of the refugees found temporary accommodation, saw an opportunity for profit. Complaints of overcharging, harassment and illegal eviction flooded into the centre – which gave priority to the refugees despite a 20 per cent (£35,000) cut in funding from the council, leaving it under pressure to find money from elsewhere.

Hildebrandt Inc, the American law firm consultancy, has established an office in London. The chairman, Bradford Hildebrandt, a former policeman in New Jersey, is preaching the message of the American legal market in London. "Clients have become more demanding, competition is getting intense, profitability has become more elusive, and growth has become essential for survival," creating, he says, the need for advice from consultants experienced in the United States. The prospect of the UK legal market going the way of the Americans may not, however, prove popular. Over the past decade many American firms have gone under, often despite bringing in a consultant or, as some United States observers remark, occasionally, because of it.

Hildebrandt's London office will be headed by Stephen Mayson, formerly with the David Andrews Partnership, the law firm management consultants, which has an association with Hildebrandt's main rival, Alman & Weil. Mr Hildebrandt and Mr Andrews had discussed a possible merger but, Mr Andrews says: "We had come to the conclusion that the British and European legal markets, for the most part, were not yet mature enough for the American approach in management; except, perhaps, for a few very large firms."

Scrivener

Edward Fennell reports on how a new firm is getting over the problem of unprofitable legal aid funding

Legal aid work is increasingly coming to be regarded as a vocation rather than a profession, but this poses serious problems for those who are not willing to compromise their professional standards. Although there are regional firms which can make a profit of sorts out of such work, it is hard to do in London, if only because rents and salaries are not adequately covered by the London "uplift". As a result, according to some lawyers, the quality of legal service is being reduced.

One solicitor with direct experience of this problem is Chris Magrath. As one of the founding partners of Powell, Magrath & Spencer in the mid-1970s, Mr Magrath was committed to providing high quality legal services to "the man and woman in the street". In effect this meant primarily a legal aid clientele, although he

## Niche work saves a service

asserts: "A client is a client regardless of where the funding comes from."

That said, Mr Magrath found himself increasingly frustrated as the 1980s wore on by his inability to provide his clients with the best possible service because of the financial constraints under which his firm was operating. Although Powell, Magrath & Spencer grew into one of the biggest firms of its type in London, its profitability declined as legal aid rates failed to keep up with inflation.

To remedy this, Mr Magrath turned his expertise in the immigration field to commercial advantage by offering his services to the corporate market as well as to the local people in north-west London. However, the strain of operating in

two such diverse markets told on the unity of the partnership. After months of internal debate, Mr Magrath decided to leave and, taking 10 colleagues with him, last week opened a new firm, Magrath & Co, in the West End, with the aim of developing an operation based largely on litigation and immigration.

The moral of this story, however, is not just that smart lawyers adapt to changes in the market-place. What Mr Magrath has done, in effect, is to turn the fact that both rich and poor need immigration advice into an opportunity for reaping wider commercial markets.

In particular, relationships with the United States have been carefully nurtured. Mr Magrath is a member of the New York Bar and, by fostering a relationship with a New York law firm, Givney Anthony &

Fisherty, he has created a circle of opportunity. "Immigration work is increasingly referred to me by my American colleagues, and this in turn leads to associated corporate work," Mr Magrath explained. "An American company setting up a small operation in the UK needs advice on immigration first, but this can easily lead on to work with housing, contracts, and even into litigation."

Mr Magrath's next step is a joint venture with Givney Anthony & Fisherty to Eastern Europe. Still with a focus on immigration, he hopes to win work there at a time when many of these issues are being considered for the first time.

"I believe that the future lies with niche operations which stay ahead of the game and are adaptable," he says. "If you are constantly anticipating where the market is going next, you can do well."

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## HORIZONS

# Facing up to a bright future

When you flick through glossy magazines looking at sultry beauties or watch as film stars come into close-up, consider why the faces match the images and characters so perfectly. Fashionable images are as much a make-up design as a clothes style and in performance, too, looks enhance acting. Make-up artists — a job title which assumes hair and sometimes wig skills — are used in film and television and in leading theatre and opera companies (although most theatre performers do their own make-up).

Whether the setting is a photographic or film studio, the make-up artist is the last person to come into contact with the model or actor so no bead of sweat or straying hair spoils the perfect shot. Stamina, to cope with an on-the-spot job with intensive and erratic hours, is as necessary as artistic flair.

There are three categories of work for this indispensable behind-the-scenes skill: stills for fashion and advertising, television or feature film and live performance. For stills, the make-up artists are usually

## Make-up artists enjoy their work.

### Bernardine Coverley looks at the foundations of this skilled career

freelance and have their own extensive range of cosmetics and hair care equipment for which a "rent" is paid as part of the fee. BBC television employ make-up artists who have successfully completed the initial training course.

Graded opportunities start with assistant, moving to artist and then to make-up designer. JOBFIT, a scheme sponsored by the media industry's unions and Channel Four, has recently added training in make-up/hair with a combined placement and college-based course. And an increasing number of independent courses offers both initial training and specialized courses for those already in the business.

A make-up artist must learn techniques to camouflage broken veins or pimples and highlight muscles and to mask bruising. A knowledge of small prosthetics is essential for theatre and film work; that is, putting on a seamless false nose, creating scars and making the wounded soldier appear to bleed. All important, especially when an actor plays more than one part in, for example, a period drama; then it is off stage right as a victorious British soldier circa 16th century and on stage left for the next scene as a dead Spanish sailor.

Fashion, as much as film, may find the committed make-up artist in strange settings, giving the final puff of powder up a crane in Dockland or in a wild rural spot.

The final creation is always a co-operative effort and the make-up artist is part of a team, even for a day, in a studio on a fashion shoot. After consultation with the stylist, who will explain what "look" is needed, models are made up, including hands, legs and any other exposed skin area, with great attention to detail.

Skin type must be taken into consideration when ap-



Creating a character, the more demanding the better: Sabrina Low applies the delicate touch on a theatre assignment

plying and removing cosmetics. Each skin colour needs an individual design from the fair skin that accompanies red hair to the dark skin shades of black and Asian models.

Ellen Kramer has been in the business four years, which includes the time spent offering her services at a minimum charge on photographic "tests" and doing a course which prepared her for every make-up situation. Her main work is for women's magazines and catalogues.

Her preference is the precise artistry for close-up beauty stills. As a specialist in black

skins, which is still rare, Ellen is in demand by black performers, particularly for record covers.

"Luckily I have avoided any pigeonholes," she says. "The first two years were hard work and I earned very little money. But now I have enough work so I can say that I am paid to do what I love."

The will must exist to put in time and money — skill and perseverance pays off. Independent courses are expensive; the best are run by practising make-up artists.

Although most make-up artists again remain in a

chosen area of work, it is possible to combine theatre and film or stills and commercials. Film production companies are more likely to use make-up artists with fashion experience.

Before the first production meeting, the make-up artist will have studied the script and prepared a budget. Technical solutions may need to be thought through for shower and swimming-pool scenes or special effects. Make-up must be appropriate to period, style and story location.

Sabrina Low is familiar with all these aspects from small prosthetics — are worth sev-

eral thousand pounds. She says: "When you are working it is well-paid, but high wages must cover periods of unemployment, when I spend hours in the National Portrait Gallery in London. Research is something I enjoy and is particularly relevant for opera."

As well as work on live

performance with Opera Factory, Ms Low, in keeping with her flair for spectacle, has

made up Archais, a circus troupe known for its chainsaws and motorbikes, for a French television appearance, and the "extras" for a cinema film.

As in many professions

where the competition is intense, experience is necessary even before applying for training courses. A background in art or hairdressing is helpful, as is a portfolio of photographed work. Budding models may be willing to collaborate and share the cost of quality photographs.

"Presenting your work is an important part of getting contracts," she says. "At first, it needs a lot of self-promotion; now I have a 10-minute video show on VHS and my agent keeps me in touch."

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### SOCIOLOGY

#### Lectureship Grade A

The successful candidate will be required to teach in the field of research methods. Preference may be given to candidates with additional experience in the sociology of gender.

### INITIAL</h



Professional rule-bending destroys the spectacle of the fourth cricket Test in Barbados

# Game marred by cynicism because stakes are too high

**Bridgetown.** THE professional foul has been with us ever since professionalism. The fourth day of the fourth Test match of this series was remarkable for the sustained performance of deliberate rule-bending and gamesmanship from start to finish, and from both sides.

"It is widely acknowledged that if both sides agree to cheat, then cheating is fair," C. B. Fry said. That principle seems to have been taken on Sunday to the point of ludicrousness.

Allan Lamb, England's captain, slowed down the over-rate as a tactical move. It made for a Pythonesque day's play, with shoe-laces fiddled with here and boots taken right off and put back on again over there. Change the field. Oops, change it back again.

Lamb managed the impossible: he and his team reduced one of the most tense and important Test matches in years into a day of jaw-breaking tedium. Well, the West Indies did it to our brave boys in Port of Spain, didn't they? Or as C. B. Fry would no doubt say, what's that to do with anything?

As a little bonus at the end of the day, we had the outrageous intimidation of the umpire by the West Indies captain, Viv Richards. His yelling, finger-flicking charge up the wicket looked almost like a physical threat. Certainly it counted a totally incorrect decision from poor

**Simon Barnes**

Lloyd Barker.

It is awful, all this, of course it is, but in a way, I don't blame the players. Professional cricketers do not go to the Caribbean for their holidays; they are here as a major career move. Sport is not the pastime to these people; it is not a mere living either. Their lives, their futures, and their self-esteem depend on an industry that can take its workers to dizzy heights of achievement, or can dump them brutally.

It is not a gentle life, with pleasant days spent playing an agreeable game. It is a life of great tensions, and great worries. Richards can feel the end of his career approaching and he dreads the sting of failure in this series; hence his mad charge that might for ever blight the career of Bailey, out caught off his backside. Lamb, a central part of the team that might yet make history, is fearful that his first crack as England captain (standing in for Gooch) might see this series lost.

This is not the village green. And in truth, the stakes have become too high for the format of the game. This is true in cricket; it is also true in virtually every sport. The professional foul is part of

them all: athletes take drugs, rugby players stamp heads, tennis players scream, footballers invented the term. So: change the format of the game, right?

The point is not to say "Oh, how shocking," and "We would never tolerate such goings on at the Test in Irregulars." Professional sport is not comparable to such things. Of course it would be altered dramatically: elevated to the pinnacles of sporting administration. The world's pleasure in matches such as this one is, after all, in their hands. They should have the power to stop intimidation, time-wasting, and sledging, in the knowledge that they will be backed up by a governing body that has total faith in them.

The laws and conditions of play should be made absolutely clear, in the knowledge that every loophole will be exploited. Punishment should be effective and inevitable, instead of occasional melodramatic martyr-making that is sport's way.

Players earn their money and the big-digger excitement of their lives because sport attracts public interest. Competitive enthralls. It is the player's duty to the public not to "entertain", but to compete. The negative ambitions of one team can lead to an enthralling game of tensions, after all.

But Sunday's professional rule-bending destroyed the spectacle, and destroyed its satisfaction for its audience. Ultimately, this is counter-productive for the sport, and for the players themselves.

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sport should work against it in the expectation that rule-bending will occur. In short, sport needs a fundamental shift in attitude.

In cricket, the umpires must be allowed to take charge. They must be cherished and made much of given great authority and massive rewards. Their status should be altered dramatically: elevated to the pinnacles of sporting administration. The world's pleasure in matches such as this one is, after all, in their hands. They should have the power to stop intimidation, time-wasting, and sledging, in the knowledge that they will be backed up by a governing body that has total faith in them.

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Players will tell you, of course, that they are not cheating. They are just being professional. It is time that the administrators matched this professionalism with professionalism of their own. If players are cynical about the laws, then the lawmakers have a duty to be cynical about the players.

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## MOTOR CYCLING

### McGee's injuries mar win

**MONTEREY,** California (Reuters) — Wayne Rainey, the American Yamaha rider, survived a crash-marred US Grand Prix on Sunday to score his second victory in as many races this year and take a commanding lead in the world championship hunt.

Rainey's three principle rivals all suffered crashes. Wayne Gardner went out early after a crash, but was not seriously hurt. Kevin Schwantz, from the United States, crashed after staging a race-long duel with Rainey and retired with a wrist injury. Eddie Lawson, the defending world champion, broke his right heel in a crash during Friday's qualifying and did not race.

The day's most serious injury was to Kevin McGee, of Australia, whose fifth-lap crash forced the race to be restarted. McGee lay motionless beside the track, but was later reported to be conscious. McGee was in critical but stable condition on Sunday night.

## TENNIS

### First round exit for Cash

**TOKYO.** — Pat Cash once again found Tokyo's imposing Ariake Coliseum an unfriendly place as he was edged out of the first round of the Sun City Japan Open yesterday by his friend and countryman Mark Kratzmann (a Special Correspondent writes).

While the former Wimbledon champion was disappointed with a 6-4, 6-7, 6-4 defeat it was nothing like as painful as last year when he fell and ruptured his Achilles tendon which resulted in an 11-month absence from the circuit.

After winning the second set

tie-break 7-5 it seemed he might register an important first victory since returning last month, but unfortunately for him Kratzmann is a difficult proposition these days, ranked No. 50 and rising.

Bratton's Andrew Castle and Danny Sapsford did well to qualify for the main draw but then made quick exits. Castle allowed Shuzo Matsukata to muddle through 6-2, 6-3 while Sapsford lost to Jonathan Carter in three sets.

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